

## United Nations celebrates Palestinian solidarity day

By Carrie Nette Thompson  
Star Geneva Correspondent

GENEVA — There were 5 regional conferences convened to study the question of Palestine this past year. A global meeting was held in Aug.-Sept. to integrate, distill and disseminate the data that had been gathered on the regional level, where everyone wanted to be in on the action, particularly the correspondents at the Palais des Nations.

On 29 November, the day designated as Palestinian solidarity day, precisely two persons — both correspondents — turned out for a well-documented film on the Palestinian struggle, and it was shown in the cinema of the Palais des Nations. However, interest was much more in evidence at the commemorative services which followed in one of the central P.U.N. Swiss halls. Approximately 200 officials had interested Geneva government sat politely while eight representatives of various organizations delivered the usual pleas for self-determination and statehood for the Palestinians.

Mr. Evarist Saliba, permanent representative of Malta to the U.N., said that the "need for today's celebration shows what has not happened" even though the continued call for numerous meetings and conferences were clear "road signs" of the problem. He continued that "the plight of the Palestinian people is perhaps more serious than ever". Saliba asserted it is necessary to "change intransigence into cooperation... it is in none's long-term interest to have, condone, maintain or nurture conflicts that endanger the rights of the Palestinian people."

Kazimir Vidas, permanent representative of Yugoslavia to the U.N., spoke for Ambassador Fonseka, chairman of the special committee to investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories. He stressed that Israel continues to use "expulsion as a form of punishment" and that "death and bloodshed" was provoked by the activities of Israeli settlers in the occupied territories.

Ambassador Riyadh Al-Azzawi, permanent representative of the Republic of Iraq, as chairman of the Arab states, cited Israel's attack on the Iraqi atomic plant, bombardment of Lebanon and slaughter of the Palestinian people as he repeatedly pointed to its refusal and rejection of resolutions and declarations of the U.N. He alone of the speakers compared the Israeli government to that of South Africa.

The Organisation of the Islamic Conference was represented by H.E. Mr. Mounkeila Aroun, ambassador of Niger in Paris. He emphasized the PLO must maintain uniformity and cohesion if they are ever to have their inalienable rights.

### Commander of militia resigns

BEIRUT (AP) — A key commander of the Israeli-backed home guard militia movement in Southern Lebanon announced Wednesday that he had abandoned his fighters and would support the mainstream Shi'ite Muslim militia Amal. The commander known as Abu Sateh told a press conference at Amal's headquarters in the Beirut suburb of Bourj Barajneh that he had dissolved his home guard unit and pledged to renew loyalty to the Amal militia, which opposes the Israeli occupation.

Abu Sateh said that he set up his militia, known as the Shi'ite Army, to defend the largely Shi'ite population of Southern Lebanon from attacks by rightist Christian militias. But Abu Sateh said he came to believe that his militia would be under Israeli's direct command and that he feared the militia might be forced to instigate hostilities.

### Prisoner exchange is incomplete

Continued from page 1

The Israelis are, however, still holding 2,700 "convicted guerrillas" and of 1000 Palestinians who should have been freed from Israeli prisons only 63 "high security" prisoners have been freed. Another 35 prisoners who were abducted from ships while on their way from Cyprus to join the PLO in Tripoli were also released. Only seven women prisoners have been released although the exchange was supposed to have included all women prisoners.

Palestinians from territory occupied in 1948 have had to face an additional prob-

which include those of "sovereignty, a homeland, and a return to that homeland."

From the group of Non-Aligned countries, Ambassador Bhogirath Lal Das, acting permanent representative of India to the U.N., said that the Non-Aligned Movement had been particularly active in organizing opposition to Israeli actions and getting the U.N. Security Council to take action. He added that in March of 1983 at their New Delhi summit conference they had established a committee of heads of state, chaired by Indira Gandhi, to take "intensive and wide consultations" to try to reach some answer to the Palestinians plight. He continued that already such in-depth consultations had been held in Western Asia.

Eighty countries, including the Union of Palestinian Lawyers were represented by Mr. Joe Nordmann in his capacity as president of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. Nordmann stated that "the agreements of Camp David" were a challenge to international law and that they had led to much conflict. He added that the present "tragic events in Tripoli are founded in the denial of the rights of the Palestinian people." He further made reference to the "subornness and scorn of the Israeli authorities because of the support of the United States." Nordmann said his organization is calling for the convening of yet another international conference for peace in the Middle East with its aim to create an independent state for Palestinians under the auspices of the U.N.

Nabil Ramlawi, director and permanent observer for the PLO to the U.N., attacked both Israel and the US with his strongest criticism levelled at the latter. He charged that both were "constantly and systematically working to paralyze international efforts on behalf of the Palestinian people." He charged that they harboured the wish to "subject the whole region to America's imperialistic plans, taking no heed for the rights of people or international feelings." He further charged that "Israel was only admitted to the U.N. on the basis of its responsibility to safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people" and that this had in no way been done. Rather, their action was that of "dispersal and liquidation."

Ramlawi placed special emphasis on the new settlements by the Israelis which he said would number 1.4 million in Gaza in the next 30 years, 10,000 in the next 5 years and 20,000 on the Golan. He added that there were already 25,000 on the West Bank, East Jerusalem, Gaza and the Golan.

Messages of solidarity also were received from the rulers of Bahrain, Egypt, Ethiopia, Syria, Yemen and Yugoslavia.



LONDON — Commonwealth leaders who are investigating the theft of three gold worth £26 million from Brinks-Mat security depot near London Heathrow Airport last Saturday showing the size of shoeboxes in which the 6800 bars of gold were stored. The beuge cloth bags the gang used as hoods to blindfold the security guards. A reward of £2 million (\$3 million) is offered for the arrest of the robbers (left wirephoto).



Commonwealth leaders meeting in New Delhi

## Commonwealth leaders call for East-West dialogue

By Len Rockingham  
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — From the safe distance of the Commonwealth leaders' conference in New Delhi, the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, has quietly changed her policy towards the build-up of nuclear weapons in Europe, and subscribed to the idea that there must be more "meaningful dialogue" between East and West.

The need for dialogue was embodied in the three page "Goa Declaration", named after the South Indian seaside resort where the leaders of the Commonwealth nations spent the past weekend. The call for more East-West dialogue represents a more victory for the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Pierre Trudeau, who first presented the idea in London two weeks ago, and received a chilly response from the British Prime Minister.

But Mrs. Thatcher's endorsement now of the need for dialogue is not altogether a reluctant conversion. As an estate politician, she can see the need for some fresh initiative on the nuclear question. Now that the Russians have broken off the arms limitation talks with the Americans in Geneva and indicated that they will deploy their own nuclear missiles to face the "Cruise" and Pershing missiles recently delivered to Britain, Italy and West Germany, public opinion is clearly looking for a way of halting their "tit-for-tat" policy.

In Britain, it has been forcefully pointed out by the opposition Labour Party that

the deployment of new weapons on the sides of Europe's iron curtain has brought a military advantage to say the least. And, despite the government's professions, the anti-Cruise peace protests show no sign of fading away. On the contrary, the women protesters encouraged around the American base as demonstrated as never to prevent the Cruise missiles, on their huge mobile launching vehicles, from being dispersed around the English countryside. The Greenham Common women continue to receive support especially from church groups, and it is the security forces who show signs of giving up the struggle. This week the police force announced that, having spent more than two million pounds last month on guarding the Greenham Common base, it is now reducing the number of policemen at the base from 800 to 200.

In New Delhi, therefore, Mrs. Thatcher willingly put her signature to the Goa Declaration, to show that her government is by no means satisfied with the nuclear statement issued with the nuclear statement. There are no immediate plans for Mrs. Thatcher to visit Washington, Moscow or Peking — in the steps of Mr. Trudeau but she does intend to go soon to Hong Kong. There she can be expected to talk in conciliatory terms about the need for more mutual understanding between the capitalist West and the communist East. It will seem a strange message coming from the Western leader whom the Russians have called "the Iron Lady", because of her stridently anti-communist speeches in the past.

## New attacks follow bus bomb

### Israelis block West Bankers at river bridges

By Star Staff Writer  
with agency news reports

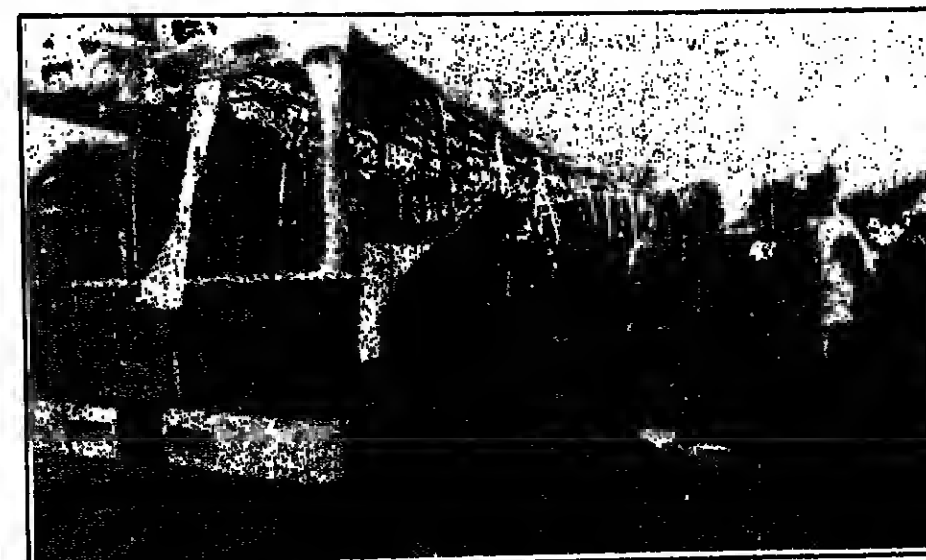
AMMAN — The Middle East struggle looked set this week for a new stage of armed resistance and strong suppression as Tuesday's powerful explosion aboard an occupied Jerusalem bus was followed by rigid statements from Israeli leaders and more bomb incidents.

A hand grenade exploded on Wednesday in a Haifa marketplace, injuring four people, and the occupied West Bank city of Nablus was thrown under a military curfew after a second grenade was thrown at an army patrol there. Israel Radio said the Nablus grenade, which did not explode, was Soviet-made. A second grenade attack in Nablus was reported later in the day, but it was not clear whether the grenade had exploded.

The Israeli occupation authorities at the Jordan River bridges on Wednesday prevented West Bank Arabs from crossing to Jordan but allowed arrivals from the east to cross into the West Bank. Arrivals were subjected to a very unusual and thorough search.

The bridge guards apprehended dozens of Arab youths who were planning to cross to Jordan and subjected them to intensive interrogation.

The ban on west-to-east crossings will remain in effect until further notice. The



Remains of the Israeli bus shattered in Tuesday's bombing

authorities are said to be trying to prevent the perpetrators of the bus bomb from escaping to the East Bank to Jordan.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir vowed in the Knesset Department that Israel would strike back at the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in revenge for Tuesday's bomb attack, which killed four Israelis and wounded 46.

Shamir told the Knesset, "our hands will reach them and we will strike at them until this horrifying evil will disappear from the land."

He warned of the "threat to Middle East peace" and said what happened yesterday in Jerusalem "proves again the need for a united and steadfast stand of all forces in our region against (those) who

are threatening to extinguish any sparks of a chance for peace and stability."

Stronger statements come from other Knesset members. Israeli Radio said Guelo Cohen of the rightist Hahiyah faction sent urgent messages to the prime minister and to the ministers of defence and interior in which she stated that the appropriate answer to this incident would be to expel all Arabs from Jerusalem and to ban all Arabs from entering the city. In her letters she also requested a declaration of Israeli sovereignty over Al-Aqsa Mosque, which she said should be transformed into a Jewish synagogue.

Knesset Member Haim Druckman of the religious faction Mivdat requested the death punishment for every Arab involved in the explosion, and demanded that Arabs be banned from using Israeli buses.

## PLO charters Greek ships for evacuation

ATHENS (AP) — A government spokesman said Wednesday the Palestine Liberation Organization has chartered four Greek passenger ships to evacuate PLO leader Yasser Arafat and 4,000 loyalist fighters from Tripoli, Lebanon.

Shipping sources in Athens — part of Piraeus — said the first ship would leave Wednesday for Tripoli, to begin the embarkation on Friday.

Government spokesman Solfriss Kostopoulos said the ferries, chartered by the Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine, would take the Palestinian fighters to North Yemen and Tunis. He said the ships would fly both Greek and United Nations flags.

The entire operation will take place under the supervision of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the spokesman said.

He said Arafat had contacted Greek Foreign Minister for Middle East Affairs Constantinos Papoulas requesting the Greek government to assist in the PLO evacuation.

The Piraeus shipping sources said the PLO first asked the government to tender for four passenger vessels and two cargo ships, but later said it would not require the freighters.

The sources said the PLO had agreed to pay a 2 per cent war risk — surcharge on the value of each vessel for a planned 12-hour stay in Tripoli port.

## Lebanon waits on political moves Syria turns over pilot's body as Gemayel seeks unity cabinet

BEIRUT (AP) — The body of the American pilot killed when his plane was shot down during air raids on Syria's positions in Lebanon was turned over by the Syrian army to the Lebanese army on Wednesday, the state radio reported.

John Stewart, an American embassy spokesman, said it was expected the body of Lt. Mark A. Lange would next be given to the US Marines here for its eventual return to the United States.

Lange, 27, of Fraser, Michigan, was killed on Sunday when his A-6 intruder was downed as more than two dozen American aircraft bombed and strafed Syrian positions in Lebanon's central mountains.

The state radio said the body was turned over to the Lebanese army and was taken to Lebanon's central military hospital in East Beirut. It did not say where Lange's body was turned over.

Syrian soldiers at Kfar Selwen, where the A-6 came down 24 kilometres east of Beirut, said on Sunday that Lange lost a leg and later died.

His navigator-bombardier, Lt. Robert O. Goodman, 26, of New York City, was captured by the Syrians, and Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlass said Goodman would not be released until the Americans leave Lebanon.

US officials have said they are making efforts to secure Goodman's release.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union, playing up the apparent confusion in the West about the peacekeeping force in Lebanon, charged on Wednesday that Washington plans

more attacks on Syria and compered US presence in Lebanon to American involvement in Vietnam.

"The blatant demagoguery employed by Washington to justify this aggressive action (bombing of Syrian positions in Lebanon) belies its true intentions," the official news agency TASS said.

Empty words apart, the United States simply wants to assume the exclusive right to send its planes and ships, to land troops in any sovereign nation, provided there is a command from the Oval office."

**Beirut shelling**  
Sporadic artillery fire crashed around rain-drenched Beirut on Wednesday as President Amin Gemayel was reported trying to weld Lebanon's warring factions in a national coalition cabinet.

Police said intermittent shellfire struck outlying residential neighbourhoods in mostly Christian East Beirut after dawn as Lebanese army troops and rightist Christian Militiamen battled with artillery and rockets against anti-government Druze fighters.

A police statement said no casualties were reported in the exchanges in the hills above the US Marine base in Beirut's closed international airport.

Marine Spokesman Capt. Wayne Jones said there were no attacks on the Marine camp since a sundown barrage of heavy machine gun fire on Tuesday prompted the American peacekeepers to open up with tank guns and anti-tank weapons.

"I imagine we'll be all trying to stay dry," said Jones, as the first heavy

downpour this winter caused traffic jams and power cuts in various parts of the Lebanese capital.

Prime Minister Shafiq Al-Wazzan said he would seek an early decision by President Gemayel on the resignation of his nine-man cabinet to make way for a national coalition government.

Wazzan, who has been prime minister since October 1980, tendered his resignation on 26 September, the day a ceasefire mediated by the United States and Saudi Arabia halted Lebanon's latest civil war.

But Gemayel delayed a decision on accepting or rejecting the resignation until he could find out whether the principal warring groups would agree to join a coalition cabinet intended to bring about national reconciliation.

"Deciding upon the resignation now will make all parties concerned face their responsibilities to set the stage for a speedy formation of a national coalition government," Wazzan said in a statement published by Beirut's independent newspaper "An-Nahr."

In the absence of a sufficient military force to strengthen Lebanon's affairs, it is imperative that a political force backed by all sides should step in to end this continuous hemorrhage," Wazzan said. The Lebanese cabinet met on the subject on Wednesday.

"An-Nahr", whose publisher Ghassan Tuani is Gemayel's top political adviser, said Gemayel was already mulling behind-the-scenes contacts with various feuding leaders on the question of a new cabinet.

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Hotels face steep  
business decline

AMMAN (Star) — Hotels and the tourism industry in Jordan are facing a critical situation, according to the new legal adviser of the Jordan Hoteliers Association. Mr. Sam'an Al-Qussons, who was elected to that position in an association meeting held on Monday, spoke to The Star in an interview.

"We are not alone in the Middle East looking to get tourists from Europe. But others, who are neighbouring us, are working hard to market their touristic activities and to attract tourists to spend time in their countries," said Mr. Qussons. He said there has been a big decline in tourists coming to Jordan during 1982-1983, while Israel, in specific, is getting a much larger number of tourists.

Mr. Qussons said that Jordan is losing groups because of the high prices it charges. But these prices are necessary to cover the high expenses that hotels have to pay, he said. In Israel, hotels pay the equivalent of 15 fils per kilowatt of power and 20 fils per cubic metre of water. Hotels in Jordan, he said, pay 47 fils per kilowatt and 450 fils per cubic metre.

Furthermore, Qussons said, there is a total lack of marketing. Most if not all travel agents, in Amman in particular and in Jordan in general, are not marketing Jordan, but on the contrary, they are perfectly marketing Greece, Cyprus, Italy and other countries. Cyprus is not more beautiful than Aqaba, but tourism from Jordan to Cyprus outweighs that in the other direction because these agents offer discounts for Cyprus tours, he said.

Strict measures  
end threat to  
poultry health

By Hamdan Al-Haj  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Newcastle disease was endemic in Jordan 11 years ago but since that time there had not been an outbreak of the disease until the beginning of this year. Mr. Nabeel Daoud, an agricultural engineer at the ministry of agriculture told The Star this week. Mr. Daoud said that earlier this year two parent stock poultry farms, one in Zarka and the other in an Amman suburb, had been found to be infected with both Newcastle disease and Salmonellosis.

Mr. Daoud said that, following stringent measure by the farmers concerned and by the ministry of agriculture the two diseases have now been brought under control.

Salmonellosis is a type of bacteria which derived from, or contained in animal substances and infects broiler and layer farms in particular. There are many strains that have affected poultry in Jordan, including Pullorum, Gallinorum and Paratyphoid.

Once the ministry of agriculture became aware that there is an outbreak of Salmonellosis and Newcastle Disease, the affected farms are put under strict controls to prevent the spread of the diseases. They are not permitted to sell their day old chicks, their hatching eggs can only be sold only as hatching eggs and not as table eggs and strict measures are taken to prevent live birds entering or leaving the farms.

The farmer is given three weeks after which his stock is tested, if the result is negative he is given another three weeks. If the result is negative a second time the farmer has a choice of either culling the infected poultry from his farm or slaughtering all his chickens at the municipality's processing plant.

During the testing period the farmer isolates the infected stock from the non-infected. The farmer is obliged to put disinfectants at the main gates of his property and at the door of each poultry house.

The ministry of agriculture also takes certain routine measures to ensure the health of poultry farm stock. All farms must be fenced to prevent the entry of unauthorized personnel and of wild animals, and importers of poultry must be obtained authorized health certificates from the

Arab-American  
scientist visits

AMMAN (Star) — Dr. Farouq Al-Baz, one of the world's leading scientists in the fields of geology and astronomy, visited Amman for three days this week. Dr. Baz, an Egyptian-born American, is a leading NASA scientist and played a key role in the Apollo programme, selecting the site for the first manned moon landing in 1969.

The first oil-producing well found in the Murgan Field in Egypt was also based on his interpretations of geological data.

The aim of his visit was to discuss with several government officials ways of giving a push to applied scientific research in the Arab world and how to encourage research programmes that spring from the environment and have relevance for the people of the area.

During his visit Dr. Baz talked to The Star about several science topics, among which were the latest discoveries made by space



Farouq Al-Baz

experiments over the Egyptian desert; reasons for earth-quakes in the Middle East and the tremors in Jordan in particular. He also talked about Arabsat, the first-of-its kind satellite soon to be launched over the Middle East, and the tremendous benefits achievements of space programmes as well as the gap between developed and developing countries.

The full interview will be published soon in The Star.

Bdeir tops list  
in chamber poll

AMMAN (Star) — Mr. Isam Bdeir won 203 votes, the most of any candidates, in elections for the sixth term of the board of Amman Chamber of Industry, on Sunday. Mr. Bdeir is expected to be chosen as the chamber's new president when the board holds its first meeting soon.

Other candidates elected to the board include: Khaldoun Abu Hassan (185 votes), Abdullah Al-Tabha (161 votes), Mohammad Inha (157 votes), Ma'an Thuhan (135 votes), Sultan Al-Arnout (130 votes), Fuad Qatana (129 votes), Tawfiq Abu Aita (128 votes), Zaid Shamsa (128 votes), Suleiman Baghdadi (127 votes), Dr. Suhail Al-Tibi (126 votes), and Engineer Muhammad Al-Gharalbeh (124 votes).

Among the 12 new board members are eight members of the industrial bloc emerged winners. Thirty-eight candidates ran for the election.

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## Seminar stresses the human factor

Special to the Star

AMMAN — Over-all quality of medical products was the top priority in the Symposium on Drug Industries in the Arab World sponsored by the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (Aedima) in Amman from 5-7 December in the Amman Marriott Hotel.

Representatives from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, the United States and other countries attended the symposium to discuss the region's situation.

The consensus of opinion among participants was that all personnel involved in production, from management down to assembly line workers, were crucial to the quality of the finished medicine sent out to the public. There were calls for stricter testing of everything from raw materials through finished items, in Third World countries where products may be subjected to extremes of temperature, climate, and other damaging factors. The formation of a Pan-Arab Quality Control Board, and introduction of industrial inspectors to audit quality in production, were also urged.

But, "obeying regulatory laws are a minimum," countered Dr. Beaght Oom, the representative of Astra, a Swedish firm. "Quality can't be inspected into a product," he said. "It must be built into it.... The company must have its own responsibility for its products."

Mr. Amin Shugair, of the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company in Jordan, added, "The major factor in quality is the conscience of the producer. All the policing in the world from outside will not help if that isn't present."

"Money spent on good manufacturing practices and quality control is cheaper than putting a bad product on the market," agreed Dr. Oom. He pointed out that heavy investment in the form of education, training and motivation of people was the key. Workers should be kept happy with better salaries and sufficient rest breaks, so that those with routine jobs would not become exhausted during their 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. regime.

The conference was opened on Monday by Health Minister Zuhair Muhas, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

## Drugs analysis method makes Jordan debut

By Joyce Niles  
Special to the Star

AMMAN — An advanced method of monitoring the level of drugs in a patient's blood — gas liquid chromatography (GLC) — has made its first appearance in Jordan. The technique's introduction is a marked improvement for Jordanian patients, says Dr. Abdul Azim S. Salhab of the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Sciences at the university. Dr. Salhab's de-

partment now has Jordan's GLC facility, offering consultations to all Jordanian doctors.

"Although this procedure widely used in the US, UK, Europe, this is the first time it has been used here," he told the Star. It is an improvement on the treatment for monitoring optimal dosage concentrations in the patient's blood plasma and serum.

"Overdosage causes toxicity and also costs the patient more. Low dosages will not achieve results and they have long-term effect that the organism itself may become resistant to that drug," said Salhab. "So now we are able to advise the doctors as to the medications in the patient's blood."

A blood sample is taken from the patient and analysed. The sample is centrifuged to separate blood cells and other solid materials from the plasma. The plasma is then treated with an organic solvent to extract the drug, and this is fed into the liquid chromatograph. The sample passes through a series of coils and the machine produces a tape read-out. A standard sample of the pure drug is then run through the machine and the readings are compared to the exact amount of the medication in the patient's blood.

This is a help to patients such as epileptics who need to maintain the right therapeutic level of certain drugs in their blood. Minimise attacks or seizures they don't have sufficient level in their blood they may suffer from seizures, and if they are too much they suffer from toxicity.

This also holds true for people who must take large quantities of aspirin over extended periods of time, such as those with rheumatism who use it as an anti-inflammatory to reduce swelling in joints. Others that need monitoring are heart patients that are using digitalis, a medicine necessary for them to maintain a normal lifestyle but if blood levels rise above certain amounts.

In the case of death and questionable circumstances, GLC can be used to detect poisons in the blood or body tissue of the dead person, which can help authorities in their investigations.

This same procedure can detect traces of insecticides such as Folidol (parathion), a very effective but deadly preparation. The Agriculture Ministry has recommended against its use but it is still sold on the market. According to Dr. Salhab, Folidol has a short half-life, meaning that it loses its potency in a matter of weeks, and farmers must wait at least that long to pick the crop they have treated. However, they sometimes don't wait, and this safety measure to serve this safety measure, added to the fact that householders may not take proper care in washing fruit and vegetables, can mean that Folidol could be present on the table.

Dr. Salhab is also using the GLC method to investigate drug plants in Jordan, some of them containing atropine, and plans to publish the findings later.

In Jordan, "Ahlan Wa Sahlan" is more than a greeting.  
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Turkish President Kenan Evren meets King Hussein

## Evren makes three-day visit

AMMAN (Star) — Turkish President Kenan Evren, who commenced an official three-day visit to Jordan on 3 December, left on Monday for Ankara.

Both Jordan and Turkey, through constructive talks during the visit, promoted and consolidated bilateral ties. Their meetings resulted in an agreement on economic industrial and technical co-operation. The agreement is designed to boost joint efforts in the fields of construction work as well as trade, banking, tourism, transport, public works and shipping, as well as exchange of expertise and technical experts.

For this purpose, the Jordanian-Turkish committee which was set up under the provisions of a 1980 agreement will follow the implementation of the recent agreement.

In a cable to the King after his departure, Mr. Evren expressed his "sincere thanks and deep gratitude for the hospitality and warm welcome accorded to me and to the members of my delegation."

"I shall always cherish the pleasant memories of my stay in your beautiful country and look forward to further continue our dialogue and to see your Majesty and H.M. Queen Noor in Turkey."



MR MAHDI NATOUR of Amman investigates the charred remains of his car engine which burst into flames last Saturday morning as he was approaching the Third Circle from the west on Zahran Street. Mr. Natour said the fire started, presumably due to an electrical short circuit, while he was driving, and he was unable to brake. He stopped by running into the kerb but was unable to open the boot of his car to reach his fire extinguisher. He averted a serious crisis by borrowing an extinguisher from the nearby Information Ministry building. The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Department this year has started enforcing a requirement that all autos carry fire extinguishers. (Photo by Steven Ross).

## US Congressmen meet anger on visit

AMMAN (Star) — A delegation of three US Congressmen arrived in Jordan on 2 December for a seven-day visit. Democratic Congressman Nick Rahall of West Virginia, Republican Howard Nielson of Utah and Republican Congressman John Erlenborn of Illinois were the first to take the trip as a response to His Majesty King Hussein's invitation last May to US representatives and senators to visit the area.

During their stay in Jordan, the Congressmen met King Hussein, and were briefed by Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh and Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasbi, as well as some members of the National Consultative Council. They were accompanied on their trip to Jordan by Bob Joseph, President of the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA).

The World Affairs Council also held a meeting with the guests, as part of a general briefing on the present situation in the region.

Before leaving Amman to visit the occupied West Bank, the Congressmen visited the Baq'a refugee camp, and also met with the NAAA chapter in Jordan. The Star learned that the Congressmen were confronted, on both occasions, with angry Arabs and Americans, who are distraught over the current US policy in the area.

During their overnight stay in the West Bank, which started on Tuesday, the Congressmen talked with West Bank mayors and certain Israeli officials.

In an interview with The Star, Congressman Rahall attributed Congress's refusal to sell F-16 fighter planes to Jordan to the "Israeli opposition to the sale." He added, though, that he hoped "the Israeli opposition will be softened... following Prime Minister Shamir's last visit to Washington."

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## "Sorting them out one by one"

In the aftermath of Grenada, South looks at how the US is increasingly favouring the military option.

Also featured in the December issue:

- ☐ Oman: Sultan Qaboos on keeping a cool head in a hot gulf.
- ☐ Egypt: Reconstructing Suez and bottling-necking Siesta beer.
- ☐ Mozambique: Machet opens the door to foreign investment from the West.
- ☐ Business Profile: Mexico's Mario Ramon Beteta - director general of PEMEX.
- ☐ Business: Stinger sews up a new business strategy in the Third World.
- ☐ Argentina: Challenge to infant democracy.

- ☐ India: Rushing ahead with an ambitious nuclear power programme.
- ☐ Pakistan: A nation at risk.
- ☐ Third World Prize: Malta's Arvid Pardo receives this year's US\$100,000 Prize as recognition of his struggle for order in the exploitation of the seabed.
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**South**



## Municipality lays plans to ease traffic problems

### New interchange, business district projects will go out to tender soon

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A series of construction projects that are out to get under way could drastically change the traffic picture in Amman.

Major new roadworks whose design is nearly finalised could do away with the notorious congestion of some main thoroughfares in the city centre, and with the big bottlenecks at such places as the Sports City intersection, the Third Circle and the Interior Ministry Circle, say Amman Municipality officials. The last two of these will cease to be "circles" at all if proposed plans are approved, they say.

The municipality is now at the stage of qualifying contractors to bid for the work, which is partly financed by the World Bank (see Contracts & Contacts). Work has been divided into two main sections — interchange construction and traffic improvement works in the central business district (CBD) — for which interested firms may apply separately or together.

The intersection projects are being designed by the local consulting firm Dar Al-Handasa. In addition to the Third Circle,

Interior Ministry and Sports City sites, the Nasr interchange downtown is to be reworked. Each intersection is to be provided with over — or underpasses, entrances and exits for smooth transit of vehicles, to avoid the logjams that arise when hundreds of cars are trying to squeeze into or out of one roundabout.

Despite the major landscaping that presumably would be required by such construction jobs, it is claimed that no land acquisition will be necessary — or if it is, that it would only be up to one metre on either side of the existing roads.

Consultancy services for the CBD traffic improvement scheme are being provided by the UK's Halcrow Fox and Partners. These designs are completed but not yet finally approved. The work, according to the prequalification announcement, "will include improvement to road surfaces, road widening, repair and construction of footpaths, street lighting, signalisation and road markings."

Two "major corridors" are also covered by this part of the programme. They are Misdar Street, which runs from the central district to Al-Wihdat and

Ashrafiya, and Al-Quds Street, from the CBD to Ras Al-Ain.

All contracts for the traffic improvement and interchange projects will be let out to tender simultaneously, in early 1984. It is hoped that construction can start around the beginning of June.

The municipality officials did not give any estimate of the overall cost of all the projects, but said that the World Bank was funding about half of the cost, with the rest coming from the government budget. The World Bank money is part of a \$30 million loan to Jordan agreed earlier this year. In addition to the traffic projects, it will also help to finance efforts to strengthen the municipality's solid waste collection and disposal capacity, as well as its capacities for development planning, policy formulation, investment programming and design.

Under the planning and design improvement efforts, the municipality's Urban Development Department, and its Studies Department, will get a boost to help in their continued work.

As for road schemes, no further big projects are yet being contemplated for execution after the present work is completed, the officials said.

## Huge debts, wage indexing pose obstacles to Israeli recovery

By Star Staff Writer

THE ESCALATING economic crisis in Israel is the result of the government's inability to do anything about the deficit in the balance of payments or about inflation, experienced observers say. Something has to be done to restore credibility in the Israeli economy, but a review of Israeli press reports shows that the devaluation of the shekel and other measures are only steps on the road towards the recovery of the ailing economy. Other measures will follow, such as a \$1 billion reduction in budget.

The indicators are not good. Over-all production, after increasing by 5 per cent in 1981, held steady during 1982, while private consumption increased in 1981 by 10 per cent, and by 7 per cent in the next year. During the last two years exports have decreased and imports have grown.

The situation brought about the huge deficit, which has to be settled through foreign borrowing. The time is coming when Israel will have to pay all its foreign debt to service its debt which will further increase the deficit in its balance of payments.

In 1981, the balance of payments deficit reached \$2.2 billion and in 1982 \$3.2 billion. By the end of 1983, it is expected to be \$4.3 billion.

If we add to this the deficit resulting from military spending, the total in 1981 will equal \$4.4 billion, in 1982 \$4.7 billion and in 1983 \$5.5 billion.

The policy of the Israeli Finance Ministry during the past 12

months has been to deal first with inflation, which is expected to reach 170 per cent during this year. It has attempted to do this by confining the rise in prices of basic items to 5 per cent a month. At the same time the shekel was receiving exchange rate support of over 5 per cent a month against the dollar. This policy failed because no attempt was made to deal with other elements of inflation.

### Fighting inflation

Those elements pose year-in, year-out obstacles. Israel's salaries rise every three months under the automatic inflation indexing system. Savings, pensions, social security and loans are tied to the scale of inflation, thus making it impossible to escape from the cycle. The attempt to curb inflation under those circumstances has cost the Israeli government additional funds estimated at \$500 million during the past year.

The indirect costs of this attempt have grown even higher in the light of decreasing revenues. The minister of finance has blamed the recession in western countries for the drop in Israeli exports, while the industrialists' federation says that the "super-floors" subsidy for the shekel has made export manufacturing unprofitable.

Nevertheless, it appears that the standard of living in Israel is on the rise. This despite the fact that the country is chronically dependent on its foreign debts, which jumped to \$16.5 billion in 1980, \$18.2 billion in 1981 and \$30.9 billion in 1982.

Israel is well aware of the dangers resulting from its increasing debts, and has asked Washington last year for more aid. This year it asked for less assistance, but in the form of grants. If Washington agrees to that, Israel will be able to curb its debts, but the United States is not happy with Israeli economic policy. Thus Messrs. Shmuel and Aron were told, during their visit to Washington, that Israel should follow a more realistic policy.

Despite all economic measures, Israel's foreign currencies reserve decreased last month by \$90 million, Haaretz newspaper reported.

The devaluation of the shekel and the reduction of subsidies on basic items are steps in the right direction, but the government is facing the delicate challenge of wages. The Histadrut labour federation has threatened to resist any unilateral move regarding the link between the wage scale and the level of inflation.

The latest bad news for Israeli consumers is that the prices of electricity, water and other utilities are expected to be raised by 12 per cent due to a rise in fuel prices. Prices of local cigarettes have jumped by 25 per cent along with other consumer items, following the laying of a 15 per cent tax. Imported goods, rubber, plastics and gloves also increased in price. The Finance Ministry, Yigal Cohen-Orgad has said that Israelis must bear the burden of low wages in order to combat unemployment.

## Year-end movement

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

ACTIVITY ON the market this week was unstable, both in prices and daily handling levels. But with the end of the year approaching, those fluctuations seem natural in the light of the falling trend of prices that prevailed throughout the year.

We do not expect these fluctuations to mark the beginning of higher prices, despite the encouraging report of the general budget as approved by the government two weeks ago, because economic recession still prevails in addition to the critical political situation in the Middle East under which war seems more likely than a political breakthrough.

During this week 582,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 1.074 million divided among 1,220 contracts, an increase in business of 47 per cent compared to last week.

The daily handling average came to about JD 215,000 with a deviation of 20.9 per cent around this average, or 4.2 per cent of total handling, thus indicating instability.

### Banks

Bank shares occupied 59.1 per cent of total handling — an increase of 3.7 points compared to last week. Four out of 15 banks had 82.3 per cent of the sector or 48.7 per cent of the total. The Jordan Securities Corporation had 40.7/4.1 per cent; National Bank of Jordan had 21.7/2.8 per cent; Jordan-Gulf Bank had 11.3/6.7 per cent, and Jordan Bank 8.6/5.1 per cent.

### Industry

Industrials had 27.5 per cent of the total market — no change from its share last week. Five out of 30 companies occupied 48.7 per cent of the sector or 13.5 per cent of the total. They were Jordan Petroleum Refineries with 14.8 per cent of sector (4.1 per cent of total); National Industries with 12.8/3.5 per cent; Industrial, Commercial, Agricultural Company with 7.9/2.2 per cent; Paper and Cardboard Manufacturing with 7.4/2.1 per cent, and National Steel Manufacturing with 5.8/1.6 per cent.

### Services

Services firms had 10.9 per cent of the total — a slight increase (one-quarter of a point) compared to last week. Within this sector two out of nine companies occupied 61.4 per cent of the sector or 6.7 per cent of total: International Contracting and Investment at 35.0/3.8 per cent, and Arab Investment and International Contracting at 26.4/2.9 per cent.

### Insurance

The insurance sector occupied 2.5 per cent of the total market, a decrease of 4.3 points. Within this sector the Jordan-French Insurance Company alone had 45.9 per cent of the business (1.1 per cent of the week's market).

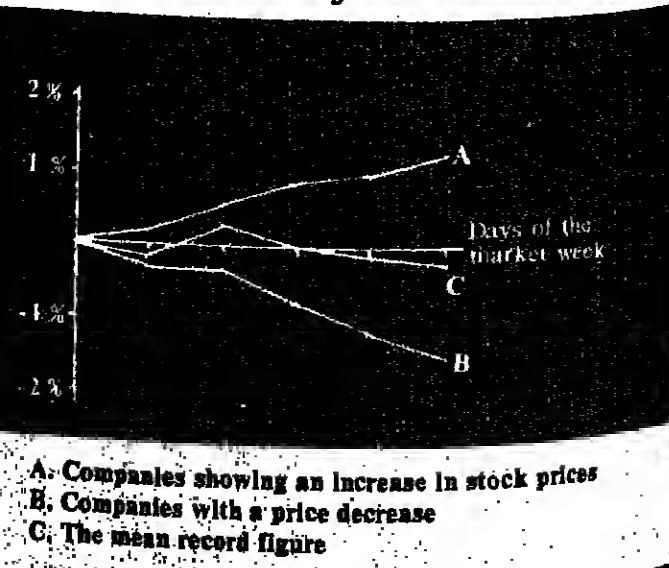
The shares of 63 companies were handled during this week, with prices declining outnumbering advances 29-24. Gainers included Arab International Hotels, closing at JD 0.700 up from JD 0.650; Jordan Electric Power at JD 1.650 up from JD 1.580; Arab Chemical Detergents Company at JD 4.050 up from JD 3.910, and Jordan Pipes Manufacturing at JD 1.160, up from JD 1.120.

Among price declines were Jordanian Rock-wool Industry, closing at JD 0.870 down from JD 0.950; Holy Land Insurance at JD 1.350 down from JD 1.470; Islamic Investment House at JD 1.210 down from JD 1.300; Middle East Hotel at 0.550 down from JD 0.590, and Jordanian Fertiliser Company at JD 7.000 down from JD 7.500.

Two companies showed no change in their share value.

The Star price index at the time of closing came to 331; a small decrease of 0.86 points or 0.2 per cent. In the over-the-counter market over 356,000 shares were handled, at a market value of JD 230,000.

## The weekly record



8 DECEMBER 1983

## Saudi construction boom leaves trail of big auctions

By Robert Poullot  
Star Economy Analyst

THE MAN easily found his way into the Western Province's largest construction equipment yard at Kilo 7, bordering the Makkah highway.

He entered the huge Binladen compound, turned right and drove straight to a small mobile unit. Grabbing a heavy black rubbish bag, he walked into the small air-conditioned unit where a few clerks were waiting around a crude counter made of three wooden planks. There, he tipped the bag with its precious contents: SR1.4 million in neatly packed bundles fresh from the bank.

The man had just bought heavy construction equipment at an auction held here last month. Unless he paid cash or through a certified cheque, he couldn't remove the equipment.

The scene has become a familiar one at Binladen's Yard in the wake of the largest auction ever held in the Western Province. Some 1,200 heavy pieces of equipment were sold in three days to some 91 buyers for SR14.6 million. Altogether, 479 bidders coming from as far away as South Dakota or Oklahoma in the United States, Holland, Italy, West Germany, Sudan, Egypt, Pakistan or Singapore had registered with Tamimi Auctioneers, a Saudi-American joint venture managed by Jim Davis Auctioneers from Texas.

Although most of the equipment changed hands to be used elsewhere in the kingdom, a large chunk of scrapers, 35-ton Caterpillar 769, graders, bulldozers and cars left the country for brighter construction markets abroad.

### The end of a boom

International auctions are the latest sign that the world's greatest construction boom has ended along the Arabian Peninsula. Although the Saudi Kingdom remains the most attractive market for contractors in the area, multibillion-dollar mega-projects belong to the past, with infrastructure development now moving into the rural areas such as Qassim in the north, Abha down south or Hofuf in the east on a much smaller scale.

"The boom is over in Jeddah and Riyadh," says a Western diplomat. "The priority is now focused on the countryside, which is about five to six years behind in terms of sewerage facilities, road systems, communications, transport network, schools and hospitals. Whenever businessmen visit us, I tell them not to waste time and concentrate on those regions."

From an average of \$45 billion per year ploughed into construction since 1981, spending is expected to drop at least by 22 per cent next year.

According to Arameco sources in Dhahran, where an elaborate monitoring system has been used since 1975, the index of contract awards throughout the kingdom tumbled by 62 per cent this year. However, due to the time-lag, the spending pipeline index has only dropped by 8 per cent over the same period, suggesting a sharp cut next year as the earlier momentum tails off.

The greatest headache for the contractors this year has been to know when and if government payments would flow into their coffers. From a peak period of five to six months' average reached in August-September, which pushed interest rates on loans over those prevailing on dollar deposits due to heavy demands for loans and rollovers, the average payment delay appears to have dropped in the range of three to four months with some major Saudi contractors reporting a normal on-time payment position in late November.

Yet, the overall construction had remarkable effects on prices of building materials, which nosedived by an average of 30 per cent this year.

Excessive inventories are reported in most yards, with the notable exception of imported cement where growing sales are displacing more expensive domestic sources of concrete.

As a result, housing construction became much more attractive. Following large-scale distribution of government land in both Riyadh and in the Jeddah-Makkah-Medina triangle, the Saudi real estate development fund is being literally besieged by a sudden rush of applications for housing loans. Applications for loans jumped by 17 per cent this year and the flow of enquiries (running at over 30 a day) from the Western Province suggests that applications may grow even further next year.

With a paid-up capital of \$12.8 billion, the fund is a leading factor in the kingdom's housing market.

During the Third Development Plan, the fund was asked to supply 103,000 units through its easy 20-year, non-interest funding programme. But with still two years to go, it has already exceeded its target by 15 per cent. Over the next seven years, the fund has projected loan disbursements totalling \$20 billion.

### The auction trend

As a financial manager of a major building material supplier puts it: "For the first time in a decade, competition not only means cutting prices and overhead costs to the bone, but also serving the clientele the best we can. After-sale service has become a prime consideration."

The Bin Ladens, Juffais, Abdul Aziz and Alirezas, Saudi Arabia's largest contracting and trading groups, are therefore streamlining all their operations to stay afloat in what has become the most critical recession ever experienced in Saudi Arabia since the late 1950s.

That means getting rid of excessive equipment and inventory material as well as cleaning up yards to improve cash flow. And the best method is through international auctions.

The Tamimi group alone has held 10 auctions this year, twice as many as in 1982, for combined sales estimated at SR175 million (\$51 million). The largest one was staged for Arameco at the end of November with over SR25 million worth of heavy equipment including generators, compressors, welders, portable buildings and loads of trucks, buses and trailers.

Other auction sales were held in Qassim, Riyadh and Al-Rohbar. The auctioneer takes care of the worldwide promotion and visa arrangements for all bidders and nets 10 per cent of the sales. Each lot is sold in 60 seconds with no minimum price, and the yelling goes on simultaneously in Arabic and English.

Even the top management of the Binladen organization, which has a work force of 5,000, was surprised by the results, so much in fact that two other international auctions are scheduled for next year: One in the outskirts of Jeddah, for general but lighter equipment; and another near Abha with much larger, though older inventory of heavy machinery.

### Small is beautiful

The spate of auctions, which is about to start in neighbouring emirates — a "premiere" is scheduled in Dubai on 22 January with consigned equipment from three or four large contractors — reveals a whole new social phenomenon in Saudi Arabia.

With the government's new regulations in favour of open bidding, smaller down payments and a 30 per cent statutory sub-contracting of any project to Saudi firms, the market is going through a major diversification process benefiting the small to medium-size builders.

Through auctions, the big league contractors are now transferring part of their assets to smaller contractors who couldn't afford new equipment at skyrocketing prices.

Open bidding, which puts an end to shortlisting and private awards among the bappy few, may mean more paperwork and closer screening, but it helps drive the prices down considerably. Together with re-tendered contracts, bids fell sharply by 30 to 35 per cent, therefore providing an extra push to the small contractors.

Another major window which served to diversify the traditional list of contractors is the 30 per cent subcontracting clause. A growing number of Western firms are now seeking partners to set up Saudi-controlled joint ventures to cope with the new requirements.

### The prospects

With 45 per cent of Saudis still living outside cities and the frantic expansion of the bank's branch network in the country side, small contractors are poised to win a far bigger piece of the construction pie.

Apart from health care facilities which are still in demand in the major urban centres and are likely to go to top-league Saudi and foreign contractors, operation and maintenance and agricultural are two major areas of future growth for the "little guy".

## Awqaf ministry initiates projects

JORDANIAN CONSULTING engineering firms will design two projects for the Awqaf Ministry under contracts that were signed on Monday. The ministry has chosen the Sigma consulting office to prepare designs and tender documents for a commercial complex that the ministry plans to build in Amman city centre, over a 6,000-square-metre plot in the Saq Al-Sail area. The complex will include offices, shops and parking space, and is expected to cost about JD 10 million to build. Shbifat, Badran and Ketiani (SBK) will provide consultancy services for a commercial building in Irbid, which will include a parking area and a marketplace. Designs are expected to be complete in about eight months, after which the projects will be tendered for construction.

## UDD tender opening lacks bidders

THE AMMAN Municipality Urban Development Department (UDD) has postponed the opening of bids for the contract to build schools and community buildings on its Quwelsmei new area site by another two weeks, after only two construction firms submitted offers. The opening was scheduled to have been held on Tuesday, 6 December. By the noon deadline only the China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC) and the local Civil Engineering Company (CEC) had turned in the documents, out of an original seven who purchased the documents. Bidding is still open to all the firms who originally prequalified for the contract. CEC and CSCEC are the only two firms to have won major construction work in the new areas portion of the World Bank-financed UDD programme so far. The Chinese company is building homes and infrastructure in the Marka and Rusafa areas, and the Jordanians have the same contract for the Quwelsmei area.

## Municipality prequalifies for traffic

INTERCHANGES AND traffic improvement: Prequalification. Tenders will be invited in early 1984 for (1) construction of four interchanges in Amman, and (2) traffic improvement works in the central business district including two major traffic corridors. Contractors who are from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland or Taiwan are invited to obtain prequalification questionnaires from the municipality's Project Co-ordination and Training Unit, P.O. Box 132 Amman, telex 22249. Closing Date for Contract (1): 31 January, 1984. For Contract (2): 31 December, 1983.

## Aqaba school project studies

THE PUBLIC Works Ministry is seeking consulting firms to provide studies of a project to build a comprehensive school in Aqaba. Firms with experience in this field are invited to purchase the tender documents from the Government Tenders Directorate for a non-refundable fee of JD 15. They are required to have one architect with at least 10 years' experience and one construction engineer with at least five years' experience. Closing Date: 11 December.

## JPRC seeks to buy oil products

THE JORDAN Petroleum Refinery Company invites tenders for the supply of an unspecified amount of fuel oil and diesel oil, C & F Aqaba and cost of transport to the Zarqa refinery site. JPRC asks for tenders on the basis of supplying 100,000 tonnes of fuel oil or 60,000 tonnes of diesel fuel, in separate envelopes. Means of transport are left open. More details are available, free of charge, from the JPRC head office in Jabal Amman, Rainbow Street. Closing Date: 19 December.

## JEA invites substation tenders

THE JORDAN Electricity Authority is inviting tenders for the provision of 20 package substations for use in its electricity distribution networks. It gives no specific rating for the stations desired. Details are available from the JEA main building, between the sixth and the seventh circles, Jabal Amman, for JD 15 non-refundable. Closing Date: 14 January.

## New opportunities

POLICE BARRACKS: The Public Security Directorate invites registered first, second and third-class contractors in tender for the construction of barracks for troops in Ashrafiya camp. Details upon payment of JD 15 from the Public Security headquarters in Police Academy Street, Amman. Closing Date: 13 December.

ALTA: The Royal Jordanian Airline invites offers for the installation of a cafeteria at its new headquarters located in the Shamsan Commercial Centre. Details upon payment of JD 10 from the Airline tenders secretary, fourth floor Shamsan Centre. Closing Date: 10 December.



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## mideast

### Congress approves subsidy for development of 'Lavi'

Another form of US military aid to Israel

THE UNITED STATES has moved decisively and ominously to subsidize research and development of a new Israeli jet fighter, called the "Lavi," which will eventually compete with US-made aircraft and cost some Americans their jobs.

In a move that has gained surprisingly little media attention, Congress has set a dangerous precedent which will allow Israel to use US military aid to buy military hardware and services from Israeli defence industries for the Lavi programme, thereby increasing Israel's ability to compete against American firms.

At the same time, an effort by the National Association of Arab Americans to bring the matter to the attention of Baltimore residents has been blocked, leading some to question the wisdom of preventing the exercise of free speech in the United States.

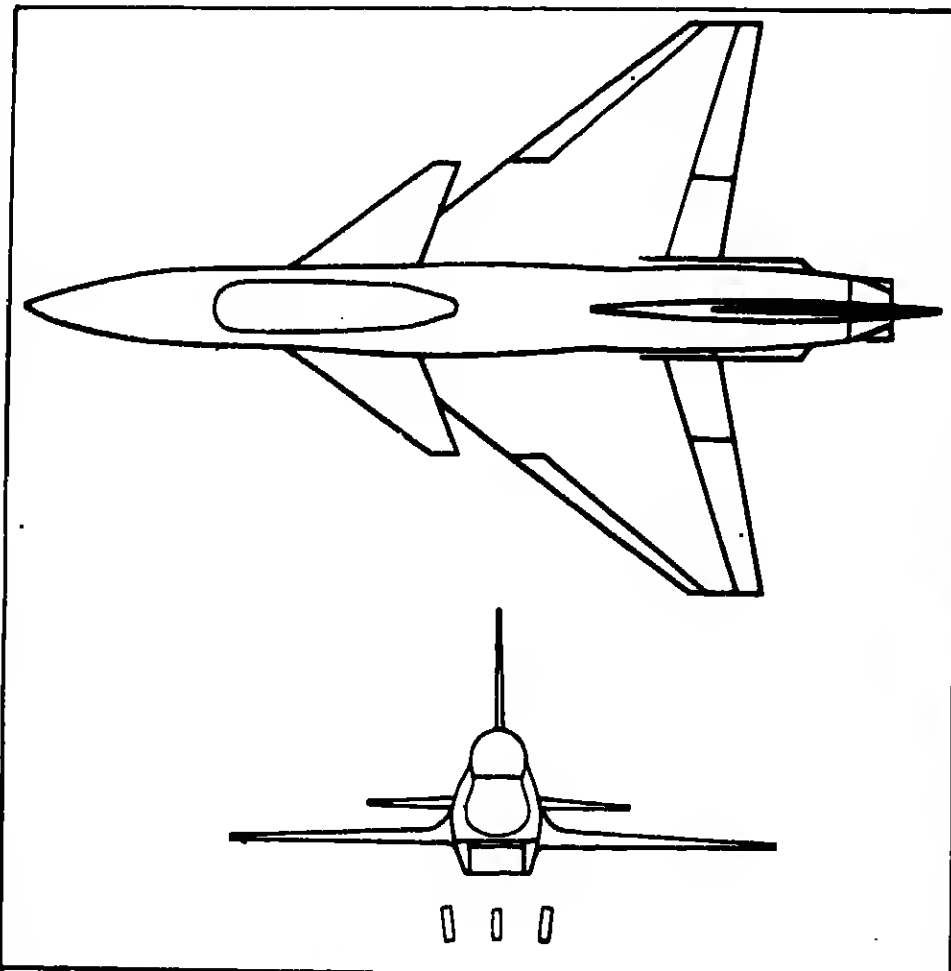
On 11 November, Congress passed an omnibus continuing resolution that funds those government agencies and programmes in the 1984 fiscal year which did not have regular appropriation bills passed through the normal process. The FY-1984 foreign aid package is included in the continuing resolution.

#### More aid

Israel, as was the case last year, has been given even more aid by Congress than the Reagan administration had requested. For fiscal year 1984, Israel will receive \$2,610,000,000 — an increase of \$125 million over last year — of which \$10 million is in the form of economic aid and \$1.7 billion in military aid. Israel is already the fourth largest military power in the world and has complete military preponderance in the Middle East.

Beyond the aid increase itself, however, is a new concession to Israel which could have adverse repercussions in American defence industries and a deleterious impact on the US economy. Congress has generously stipulated that "not less than \$300,000,000 shall be made available for research and development activities in the United States and not less than \$250,000,000 shall be made available for the procurement of defence articles and defence services in Israel for the Lavi programme."

American military aid, given primarily in the form of foreign military credits, is intended for the purchase of goods and services in the United States to support US firms. The new congressional stipulation allows Israel to spend American



Sketches of the Lavi war plane

military aid in Israel itself to develop and produce an aircraft it hopes eventually to export to third countries in direct competition with American aircraft.

Plans for the Lavi have been on the drawing board for over two years. The main point of contention within the Israeli government is the strain such a massive project would place on an already weak Israeli economy. But the programme has raised additional concerns in Washington. Research and development costs of the plane were initially estimated to be \$1.5 billion. The figure has since tripled. Similarly, the cost of each plane has more than doubled, from an estimated \$7 million to \$15.5 million. Concerns have

been raised about the likely increase in demand for US dollars and American technology.

### MP's call for withdrawal of British troops from Lebanon

By Len Rockingham

Star London Correspondent

LONDON — The British government came under very strong pressure this week to withdraw the hundred or so British troops from Lebanon, in the wake of the United States' new aggressive policy in the Middle East in alliance with Israel.

The pressure came from all parties in the House of Commons on Monday, when a Foreign Office Minister was questioned about American action over the weekend against Syrian positions outside Beirut. The Minister, Mr. Malcolm Rifkind, deputising during the foreign secretary's absence at the European summit meeting in Athens, admitted that Britain had received only a few minutes' warning of the American action; and then through military rather than diplomatic channels.

The almost unanimous condemnation of the new American offensive tactics from Conservative as well as Opposition backbenchers surprised many observers. Conservatives, who in the past have supported the small British presence in Beirut as being a stabilising factor in the Lebanese crisis, now demanded that the British government should disassociate itself from an American policy which one MP termed "dangerous and stupid."

It now seems certain that the government will urgently review the position of the British troops in Lebanon, most probably in collaboration with France and Italy, whose leaders have been with Mrs. Thatcher in Athens this week. At the very least, there will be a European move to disassociate themselves from the United States new alliance with Israel and determination to take the warfare into the Syrian camp.

Some observers also argue that it is unwise to provide greater assistance to provide greater assistance to the Lavi programme than to the US aerospace industry, especially since Israel plans to market the aircraft overseas. The Lavi would compete with the Northrop F-20 and the General Dynamics F-16, both of which were specifically designed for export. The damage caused by this unfair advantage to Israel will be only partially offset by Israeli dependence on American technology and its need to invite some American firms to participate in co-development and co-production of the Lavi.

#### NAAA's reaction

Aware of the move in Congress to allow Israel to use its military aid to develop the Lavi, the National Association of Arab Americans attempted to purchase air time on radio stations in Baltimore to bring the matter to the attention of the general public. The proposed ads stressed that American foreign aid would be used "to develop Israel's defence and aerospace industries, creating new jobs for Israelis" at a time when there was "less for Maryland."

The advertisements, which were similar in format to ads which had been running in Washington, DC, brought attention to the prominent role that Representative Clarence D. Long (D-MD) had had in promoting a "more for Israel" campaign.

Baltimore radio stations declined for various reasons to run the advertisements. The Baltimore Evening Sun cited one unnamed station manager as saying, "We've got a heavy Jewish population in Baltimore and we're in a tough front for ratings. So, why encourage someone to punch the button and tune in someone else?"

Focus

### Israeli's bomb attempt given little media attention in the US

A 22-YEAR-OLD Israeli man was arrested in the public gallery of the US House of Representatives on 18 October after trying to detonate a bomb he had carried into the building.

The New York Times cited the sergeant-at-arms of the House, Jack Rasm, as saying that preliminary estimates had indicated that the bomb could have exploded with the force of two to five sticks of dynamite and injured "quite a few people" had the terrorist succeeded in detonating it.

The incident took place as members of the House were on the floor voting on establishing a medal to commemorate Vietnam veterans. The measure passed 410 to 0, suggesting that an explosion could have been disastrous if, as the US News & World Report has asserted, the bomb "could have destroyed most of the gallery and crowded chamber."

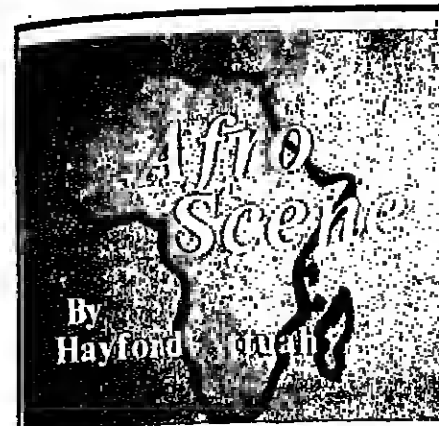
The suspect, Israel Monachem Rubinsky, who was carrying an Israeli passport which indicated he had entered the United States two weeks earlier in New York, is being held in New York on \$25,000 bail under charges of making threats of bodily harm. The charge carries a maximum 20-year prison term and a \$5,000 fine.

Russ said that the bomb "was not a dud," adding that it had failed to explode because the man "had not placed his wiring properly." Following the incident, the device was taken to Fort Belvoir and exploded.

Despite the gravity of the incident it received little media attention. The Washington Post, which reported the story the following day, buried it on the military page in the third section of the newspaper. A follow-up story 10 days later in the Metro section added little new material. The New York Times covered the incident in somewhat more detail on 2 November.

The explosion of a device on the Senate side of the Capitol building a few weeks later brought renewed interest in the earlier bombing attempt. Broadcast media tended to ignore the suspect's nationality, however, referring to him as only a "man" or a "terrorist."

Focus



### Africa and the problem of refugees

THE APARTHEID system in South Africa and the tyranny in Marxist Ethiopia are causing the most uncontrollable refugee problems on the African continent.

In South Africa, thousands of people have fled from apartheid and political persecution for more than 30 years. In Ethiopia, the Eritreans and other ethnic groups went into exile for the past two decades, first from the feudal regime of the late Emperor Haile Selassie and now, from Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam's militarist regime.

Over one million Ethiopian refugees are now known to be taking shelter in neighbouring Sudan and Somalia. The number of refugees who have fled South Africa and more recently Namibia since the South African government set its eyes on apartheid in 1948 is not known. However, many South African refugees, blacks and whites are living in many African countries and elsewhere in other Third World countries.

Today, there are some five million Africans living in exile. Apart from the South African and Ethiopian refugees, there are millions of refugees from Chad, Rwanda, Burundi, Malawi, Mozambique, Zaire and Uganda.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has embarked upon a programme of finding solutions to the refugee problem which is becoming alarming. It has to some extent achieved progress in its efforts by converting many of the refugees to what are referred to as "returnees". This category of refugees are those who have been voluntarily resettled back in their homeland.

Examples of these types of refugees are the over one million southern Sudanese who returned home and were resettled after the Sudanese civil war in 1972. In Zimbabwe, several thousand people who fled the country and lived as refugees during the war for independence returned after the war.

Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere has made some significant progress single-handedly, by giving farm lands to some 40,000 refugees from Rwanda and Burundi. He has already granted citizenship to some 30,000 of them. For the concern President Nyerere has shown for these refugees, the UNHCR recently awarded him the "Nansen Award" — a UNHCR award given annually to people who have shown outstanding generosity towards refugees.

But the problem of the South African and Ethiopian refugees seem to defy simple solution. The hundreds of thousands of Eritreans and refugees from other ethnic groups have no prospect of becoming "returnees" simply because there is no chance for them to get anywhere in the form of minority nationalities in Ethiopia. In South Africa, prospects of the refugees returning through remote, are somehow encouraging as Namibia moves gradually towards independence.

The question being asked now is, what future have these millions of people who have no chance to return to the land of their birth?

## Gandhi warns of Indo-Pakistan war

NEW DELHI (AP) — Relations between India and Pakistan appear to have deteriorated in recent months, with India warning that Pakistan might be preparing a war in the South Asian subcontinent.

But Western diplomats in New Delhi say they don't expect a Pakistani attack in view of India's superior military strength. Climaxing a series of government accusations against Pakistan, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi recently told her countrymen to be on alert for a military onslaught from its western neighbour — Pakistan.

"The danger of war is looming large on the Indo-Pakistan border," Mrs. Gandhi said, adding that dangerous reports from across the border have led India to suspect some action is being contemplated against India.

The warning was repeated by the prime minister's son and political heir apparent, Rajiv Gandhi, who told a political rally that Pakistan wants to attack India to divert attention from its own civil disturbances.

Indian and Pakistani troops last month exchanged fire several times across their ceasefire line in Kashmir state, over which they had fought two wars. No casualties were reported but each side sent protests to the other.

The two neighbours have long been suspicious of each other's sincerity for peace, and have recently been stepping up their arms purchases, trying to get a military upper hand — while at the same



Mrs. Gandhi

time discussing programmes of cooperation for peaceful co-existence.

The current round of controversy was triggered on 25 August by a statement by Mrs. Gandhi's government in parliament, voicing distress over the sufferings of people who have been demanding the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Khun Rashed and accused India of supporting Pakistan's opposition movement in the name of support for democracy.

Mrs. Gandhi's government denied that it was supporting the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) however, and said it was troubled by the inflammatory speeches made by some politi-

cal figures in Islamabad. A dinner hosted by President Zia on 8 November for Pakistan's Diplomatic Corps in Gilgit, located in Pakistan-controlled Western Kashmir, was boycotted by the Indian ambassador. India does not consider Gilgit part of Pakistan and saw the banquet as an attempt to legalize an illegally occupied area.

Each side accuses the other of interfering in its international affairs. Pakistan accused India of fomenting trouble in the Sind province, while Mrs. Gandhi said she had circumstantial evidence that proved Pakistan was helping Sikh extremists in their agitation in the Indian state of Punjab.

India has approached the Soviet Union and West European nations this year for more advanced technology and weapons, and Pakistan's armed forces are being modernized under a \$3.2 billion American aid package. Recent sales of American Harpoon missiles to Pakistan sparked Indian fear of a Pakistani attack in the sea, and the October visit to Islamabad by US Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger brought protest from India.

Soon after Mr. Weinberger's visit, Indian Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman asked the armed forces in the fully prepared for a military threat from Pakistan. He said India would continue to acquire more modern weapons.

India said US arms sales to Pakistan would create a very dangerous situation in the subcontinent, while Pakistan accused India of conspiring with the Soviet Union to bring instability to the region.

### Military, trade unions pose challenges to Argentina's new civilian government

By Andrew Graham-Yooll

MR. RAUL ALFONSIN, president-elect of Argentina since the Radical Party's decisive victory over the Peronists on 30 October, recognises that his political life is just beginning. Its continuation will rest on his success in tackling two immediate challenges — the military and the powerful Peronist trade unions.

Long before the elections, when most were expecting a Peronist win, Alfonsin's aides were warning that the unions and the military would join forces to destabilise any future Radical government. Now the Radicals fear their anti-Peronist election propaganda was closer to the truth than they thought.

The military say they will recognise the new government, despite Alfonsin's plans to cut the defence budget, and conscription and investigate the fate of the thousands who vanished during the anti-guerrilla campaign.

However, though they were defeated in the South Atlantic conflict and are politically destroyed, the armed forces still constitute a threat. They have been equipped with discipline in strong and internal authority unquestioned. Mr. Alfonsin's aides say the military needs only a new figurehead in order to re-emerge as a potent force. The President-elect, though, plans to abolish the rank of commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Alfonsin's attack on the Peronist trade unions will concentrate on a reform programme, which proved a big vote-catcher in the elections. To end the corrupt and Mafia-like control exercised by union bosses, he plans to institute democratic elections for trade union officials.

Many Radicals cast the Peronist union chiefs as the real villains, singling out in particular two whose power-base is the metal workers' union: Lorenzo Miguel, also executive president of the Peronist Party, and Herminio Iglesias, who ran unsuccessfully for governor of Buenos Aires, the richest of the 22 provinces.

Mr. Miguel emerged after leaving guerrillas murdered two of his predecessors in the union, long a stronghold of the Peronist right. He became the main support for former President Maria Estela Peron, until her overthrow in March 1976. His union ran a private army to protect its leaders, and members of that force acted in a freelance capacity. They

kidnapped business people to raise funds and terrorised anyone suspected of leftist sympathies.

After the 1976 coup, Miguel was arrested by the military which could not admit publicly that it sympathised with the onslaught by union goons against the Per-

onist left. Miguel spent four years in detention — apparently with freedom to continue running his affairs — before returning to the Peronist Party to regain his position. By then the armed forces had completed the destruction of the Peronist left.

South/Third World Media



### The car that thinks for you

IF THE lights at Ears Court fuse during Metorfair, or if the roof springs a leak there is one car which will be able to cope all by itself.

The headlights will switch on and if rain falls on the windscreen, the wipers will operate — automatically.

And if visitors speak any of 26 key words to it, the car will obey the instruction.

For this is Nissan's car of the future, Research Vehicle II, based on the front-wheel drive Sunny.

RVII's other unusual abilities include a device to measure the driver's brain patterns. If he becomes sleepy the car activates a light and a buzzer, and if these do not bring him round, the car declares loudly: "You are getting drowsy — please rest!"

The car's voice system can also speak route instructions, warnings about excessive speed, and warnings about closeness to a vehicle in front — sensed by radar.

The Standard



# Antartica: Battle for treasures of the last frontier

UN General assembly to debate claims to mineral-rich island

By Clarence Da Gama Pinto

THE VAST continent of Antarctica, the world's last untapped reservoir of wealth, has become yet another battleground between the Third World and industrialised countries.

Faced with the speed and secrecy of attempts by some members of the rich men's club set up by the 1959 Antarctic Treaty to establish a minerals regime for this last frontier, some Third World countries have demanded fresh negotiations on Antarctica's future. Malaysia and the Caribbean state of Antigua and Barbuda have succeeded in getting Antarctica included on the agenda of the current UN General Assembly session, in the teeth of stiff opposition from interested industrialised countries.

The Third World's move to play a role in the development of the riches of the 14-million sq. km. continent — one tenth of the world's land surface — was given urgency by a flurry of activity behind closed doors by an inner club of the 1959 treaty signatories this year in try to work out a minerals regime for Antarctica. Antigua and Barbuda objected in the talks, in Wellington and Bonn, because they were secret and were confined to a closed circle. In the event, there was no agreement because no decision was made on the handling of territorial claims.

## Consultative Parties

The 12 original signatories of the 1959 treaty, which declares that Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes and bans military use of nuclear activity, are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union and the United States. West Germany and Poland later joined these Consultative Parties, as they are known, to form an inner club which takes decisions by consensus and holds treaty talks every two years.

This exclusive right to decision-making, particularly on admission of new members, works to the disadvantage of the Third World countries and could prevent them from exercising what they see as their legitimate rights.

The main impetus for the Malaysian and Antigua initiative is their belief that the signatories of the Antarctic Treaty may be trying to use it as an umbrella for exclusive economic arrangements to safeguard their future food and energy supplies. In the past, they confined themselves to shared scientific research, but lately they have been arrogating the right to mine the continent's resources — which runs counter to the treaty provisions.

The Third World point is that the treaty states do not have a mandate to negotiate a minerals regime and do not represent the whole international community. A complicating strand to the race for Antarctica is that countries such as Chile and Argentina joined in the efforts by Australia, Britain and the US to get Antigua and Barbuda to drop its move to take the issue to the UN.

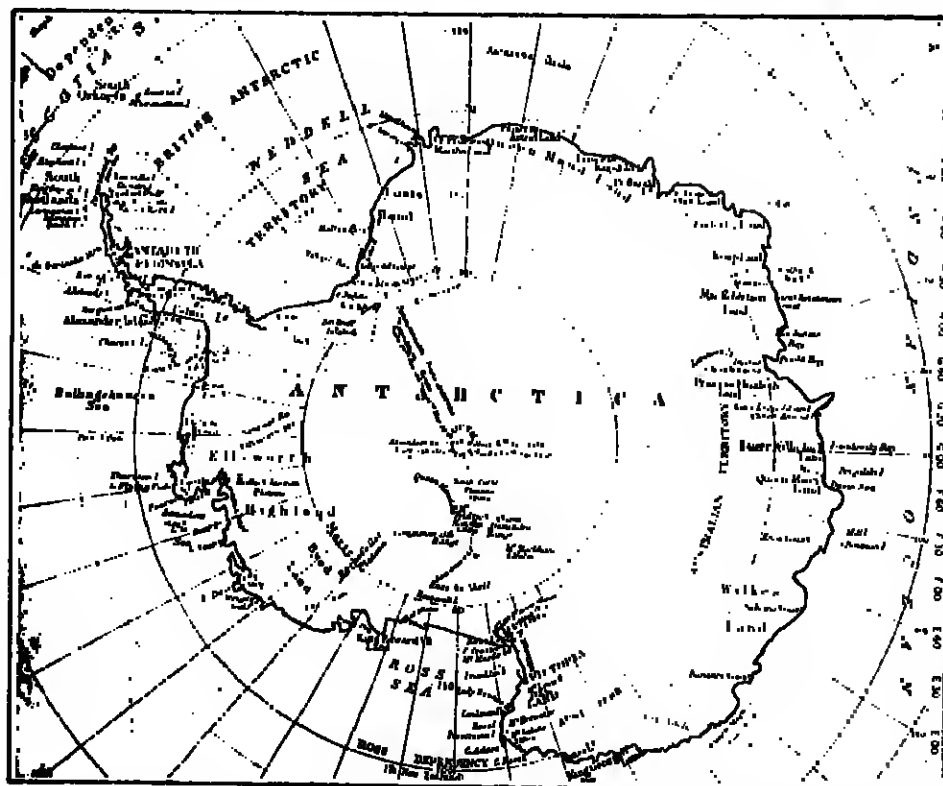
Antigua's Deputy Prime Minister, Lester Bird, told the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS): "What is sad about this confluence between eastern and western industrialised nations is that a handful of Third World countries are active participants with them to exclude other Third World countries." The general industrialised nations argument was that all was well in Antarctica. Nor has the Antigua initiative secured much support from members of the OECS or Caricom.

## Mineral wealth

What is at stake under the coldest and least accessible of the seven continents is its supposed vast reserves of mineral wealth. It has been suggested that Antarctica belongs to the super continent of Gondwanaland which used to link Argentina, India, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia and therefore contains the

sanic wealth of mineral deposits found in them.

Beneath the ice are certainly large deposits of iron and coal and there is strong evidence that oil and gas may be found on the Antarctic continental shelf. Experts also put oil reserves at 45-billion barrels and natural gas reserves at 115-billion cubic metres. There is evidence of a wide range of other minerals such as copper,



lead, silver, nickel, tin, gold, chromium, manganese and titanium.

Another resource already being exploited is fish. Besides fin fish, squid, crabs and lobsters, there is an abundance of a protein-rich crustacean called krill now being harvested by the Japanese, Poles and Russians. Icebergs are also a potential source of fresh water for arid countries. It was calculated by a French engineering company, Cicero, that the cost of towing an 85-million tonne iceberg to Saudi Arabia, would be 53 cents a cubic metre, compared with 79 cents a cubic metre for desalinated water.

Efforts to harness Antarctica's wealth are quickening. Britain, the US and New Zealand have had to deal with a flood of applications for exploration licences and enquiries for oil concessions. A Gulf Oil subsidiary offered to fund at a cost of \$2.5-million a season a marine geophysical study. The West Germans are exploring, and the Japanese began a three-year geological oil and gas survey in 1981.

## No man's land

Although article IV of the 1959 treaty neither recognises nor denies any territorial claims, seven members — Argentina, Australia, Britain, Chile, France, New Zealand and Norway — have staked claims based either on proximity or on early and effective occupation of the continent. Argentina and Chile even encourage mothers to deliver their children on Antarctic territory to strengthen the national claim. The other five treaty founders, led by the US and the Soviet Union — which have reserved their rights to claim — have neither recognised nor made claims on the ground that the Antarctic is an uninhabitable no man's land and therefore cannot be the subject of claims.

What alarms Third World observers is that these claims have been put in abeyance by signatories and not dissolved or recognised. The crucial year is 1991, when signatories can request a review of the treaty. The Third World view that Antarctica is for all states invalidates such territorial claims. Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad told the General Assembly last year that "... these uninhabited lands do not legally belong to the discoverers, as much as the colonial territories do not belong to the colonial

powers". In March, the Non-aligned Movement called for international cooperation on Antarctica to be widened beyond the framework of the Antarctic Treaty.

Malaysia and Antigua and Barbuda point out that the Consultative Parties divided Antarctica fishing rights among themselves with the 1980 Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. While it was designed to

These like-minded Consultative Parties do not accept that the circumstances in which the treaty was negotiated in 1959 have changed, despite the fact that dozens of developing countries have entered the international arena and are interested in Antarctica's enormous economic potential. The complexity of the original treaty has also been altered by the vast vista of riches now opened up. Another factor of flux, about harmonious relations between treaty parties, was thrown up by the Falklands conflict, which impinged on parts of Antarctica.

However, symbolic it might be the first act of war was the Argentine seizure of the British Antarctic scientific base on South Georgia, a Falklands dependency. The last was the British removal of the Argentine scientific base on Thule in the Sandwich Islands, another Falklands dependency, just outside the 60th parallel which marks the border of the Antarctic Treaty territory. The fact that Chile, Argentina and Britain all claims wedges of territory that overlap is also a source for future friction unless a new treaty regime takes over.

## Territorial claims

Antarctica's South American neighbours are widening their territorial claims. The Chilean Air Force is making reconnaissance flights over the Antarctic where two airstrips are planned for scientific investigations. In October, the director of the Peruvian Antarctic Studies Institute, Luis Filches Laga, declared that Peru has rights in the Antarctic on principle and by treaty. He said that Peru's Antarctic claim was basically supported by the projection of geographic lines. The institute marked out 600,000 sq. km. of territory for scientific and technology research.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro also said that Brazil "was qualified to exercise fully" the Antarctic Treaty's rights and duties after completing Antarctic expeditions this year.

Despite the success of the Malaysian and Antigua UN initiative, Third World solidarity has been breached by the Consultative Parties' decision to invite China and India to participate in the treaty arrangements. After two scientific expeditions which led to a permanent site in the Norwegian sector, India accepted an invitation to join the treaty as a Consultative Party — giving the treaty the seal of approval of a major Third World power. It also robs the Third World of the only permanent Security Council member which could help bring about changes in Antarctica.

With the Law of the Sea Convention experience behind Third World countries, future UN debates on Antarctica will enable most Third World states which are not treaty signatories to state their case. The UN should now be able to provide the framework for negotiating a permanent and widely acceptable settlement on Antarctica and prevent the exclusive arrangements created by the 1959 treaty for degenerating into a free-for-all after 1991.

South/Third World Media

## White House security tightened

WASHINGTON (AP) — Concrete barriers have replaced sand-filled dump trucks at the entrances leading to the White House as part of an effort to tighten security against possible terrorist attacks.

The barriers replaced the sand-laden dump trucks that were first parked at the White House gates on Thanksgiving Day in response to what officials had called possible bomb threats. Mr. Jack Smith, a secret service spokesman, said the new barriers are not positioned to completely shut off the gates but were stationed to prevent a motorist from crashing through an entrance. A slow-moving vehicle would have room to pass through the entrances, he said.

The dump trucks appeared to have been deployed to prevent a terrorist attack similar to the suicide truck bombing of the Marine Headquarters in Beirut that killed 239 soldiers.

## VIEWPOINT

# How to avert a disaster

By Ya'coub Jaber

THE MIDDLE EAST this week looked like a perfect site for a full-fledged war with international dimensions. The dramatic events which took place in the past few days, both on the political and military levels, give ominous signs that the worst might yet be coming.

The most startling development was the American air raid on Syrian military positions in Lebanon. The raid could have made some sense had it been carried out following the destruction of the Marines headquarters in Beirut about two months ago. But the fact that it was launched a few days after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington and the subsequent agreements on strategic co-operation between the United States and Israel suggests that the two sides have decided on the military option to force a Syrian troop withdrawal from Lebanon.

What gives credence to this view is the failure of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to persuade the US administration to work towards freezing or suspending the 17 May troop withdrawal agreement. For, by insisting on maintaining the agreement, the United States has virtually blocked the resumption of the Lebanese national dialogue which started in Geneva last month and was to resume after Mr. Gemayel found a new way to bring about a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. The Lebanese reconciliation conference was perhaps the sole political alternative to the resumption of full-scale fighting among Lebanon's warring factions. The dialogue now cannot continue because some powerful Lebanese groups oppose the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and refuse to go ahead with the reconciliation talks unless the agreement is annulled or frozen. The adherence to that agreement by the United States and Israel, thus wrecking the prospect of resuming the Lebanese national dialogue, indicates that the two countries have dropped the political option to solve the question of foreign troop withdrawal.

The problem which seems ignored by the Americans and Israelis is that at present the Middle East constitutes the most suitable ground on earth for a rapid military escalation leading to a confrontation between the two superpowers. Besides having combat forces at stakes within the range of their respective firepower, the United States and the Soviet Union have placed themselves in delicate positions which must mean that each of them is unprepared to allow a military defeat for its allies in the region.

A major military defeat for the Syrians could end for good the Soviet leverage in the Middle East. More humiliating blows to the US forces in Lebanon cannot be tolerated by President Reagan in the midst of hectic preparations for the forthcoming presidential election. Moreover, the collapse of US efforts to achieve foreign troops withdrawal from Lebanon would severely harm what is left of US credibility in the Middle East.

There is an urgent need to defuse this extremely explosive situation through political steps undertaken by neutral powers such as the European Community or the Non-Aligned group.

A security Council meeting on the Middle East could be useful in putting the wreckless behaviours of the parties involved and avert a world-wide disaster.

THE AGREEMENT on closer US-Israeli military and economic co-operation, which was concluded last week during Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington, has been the focus of Arabic press editorials for much of the week.

Cairo newspapers launch sharp attacks on the agreement and on US policy in the Middle East. Al-Gomhouriya daily writes that the accord has made the United States a partner of Israel in its occupation of Arab and Palestinian land.

"It is no longer acceptable to try to justify the agreement as a US guarantee to Israel to persuade it to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, since everybody knows that Israel is intent on maintaining its occupation as part of its expansionist strategy," writes the Egyptian paper.

It deplores the American actions, saying that Washington is giving unlimited aid to Israel that will not only lead to the consolidation of the occupation but will also provide a cover-up for new aggression.

"Israel has been able to turn a superpower into a mere financier for its expansionist designs, after that superpower has abandoned its pledges to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict," Al-Gomhouriya concludes.

Al-Ahram, another Egyptian newspaper, says the US-Israeli agreements are in total contradiction with America's role as a full partner in the Middle East peace process. It says the accords cannot be justified by the need to confront the foreign dangers threatening the region, because the main cause of tension and instability stems from the continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and denial of the Palestinian people's rights.

Al-Ahram also asserts that the United States is making a grave mistake by increasing its political and military co-operation with a state that occupies foreign territory and threatens the security of other countries as part of a conflict that has not yet been settled.

## Frustrated Arabs

The Qatari newspaper Al-Raya writes that the Arabs are becoming increasingly frustrated with the American position after the revival of the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel and the unsatisfactory outcome of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's visit to Washington.

"This strategic co-operation will not bring about the results expected from it because in the end the Soviets will use it to expand their influence in the Middle East and international polarization of the region will rise sharply," the paper says.

It concludes by calling for a common Arab stance, not to be confined to criticism of American policy but to rally all efforts behind a serious endeavour to solve Arab issues.

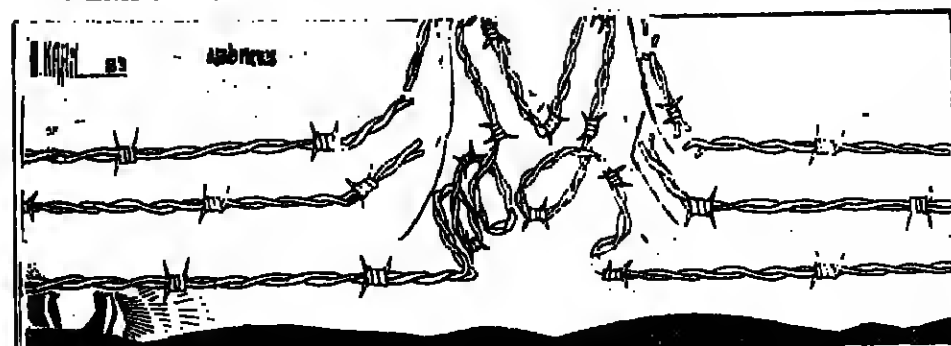
Al-Arab, also in Qatar, expresses the view that the Israeli air raid last Saturday on targets in central Lebanon was one of the serious results of the new US-Israeli alliance. It says the raid signals the beginning of a dangerous stage that could escalate into a full military eruption as a result of the US-Israeli strategic co-operation.

The Qatari paper expresses confidence that all Arab states realize the seriousness of the US-Israeli strategic alliance and the importance of bringing about a new Arab reality to confront the dangers emanating from the accords.

A Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai Al-Aam, writes that the unsatisfactory outcome of President Gemayel's visit to Washington was not surprising, because the United States considers those who rely on it as mere followers having no right to argue or discuss Washington's instructions and plans.

"The outcome of Gemayel's visit added to the results of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's talks in Washington show that the United States has an aggressive plan aimed at the whole Arab area," writes the Kuwaiti paper.

Al-Nabab, a Lebanese newspaper, says the new developments in the US-Israeli relations constitute a new reality that



should be viewed very seriously. It adds that those who wagered on the possibility of the US-Israeli alliance have based their conclusions on an illusion, after it has become extremely obvious that the US believes in a strong Israeli strategic role in the region.

It goes on to say that the options before Syria are either to promote its relations with Moscow to the level of the US-Israeli relations, or to concede that it is very difficult to achieve a strategic balance with Israel. The paper says it appears that Lebanon will be used for the new test.

Ad-Dustour newspaper of Amman calls the US-Israeli accord a "Christmas gift" presented by President Reagan to the Soviet Union for bolstering Moscow's ties with Arab states. It remarks that the Soviet Union is benefiting from the United States' political mistakes in the Middle East to consolidate its influence in the region.

Ad-Dustour goes on to say that President Reagan, who seeks to end his involvement in Lebanon by cementing his administration's relations with Israel, will find out later that the new alliance will allow Israel to consolidate its expansionist policies and new obstacles will thus be placed before the US policy in the Middle East.

The Jordanian newspaper Sawt Al-Sha'b writes that the US air raid on Syrian military positions in Lebanon marks a serious escalation that could have serious repercussions on the future of peace in the Middle East. It says that increased American military involvement in Lebanon will only lead to more violence and turn the area into an arena for superpower struggle at the expense of the interests of its peoples.

"Escalation, and resort to military operations, will not solve the region's problems but will further complicate them and deepen the roots of animosity and hatred," writes the Jordanian daily.

It concludes by calling on the United Nations, peace-loving countries and world organizations to act to stop the escalation of violence before it expands to other parts of the world.

## Israeli press

In Israel, Haolam Hazeh newspaper says that in addition to the public US-Israeli agreements there are secret ones to complete the framework of military silence.

True, President Reagan has agreed to supply a little oxygen for the ailing choking Israeli economy, the paper says; but an increase in grants cannot improve the Israeli economy tangibly.

"It is a source of worry that instead of pursuing peace in the Middle East, the military assistance comes to increase Israel's chances of being involved in another war."

"Any military pact aimed against the Soviet Union involves great dangers to the future of Israel. We must not ignore the Soviet Union's opinion about the Middle East region because the Soviet Union is trying to increase its influence in the area by taking sides with Syria," Haolam Hazeh warns.

Yadot Aharonet expresses its feeling that the major issues between Israel and the United States have not been finally solved, including that of settlements in the occupied territories, the Reagan peace initiative and the sale of advanced weaponry to Saudi Arabia.

"Shamir and Arafat accomplished something in other spheres, such as in-

creasing US aid to Israel, lifting the ban on the purchase of cluster bombs and hiring Israeli services for the US markets at a high price. The removal of customs barriers has never been granted to any other country before, and it will help our economy a great deal," Yadot writes.

It adds that the strategic co-operation agreement represents not a challenge to the Soviet Union, but a reinforcement to Israel. "Even though we did not emerge victorious from Washington talks, we emerged stronger than we are."

Maariv comments that the United States is manifesting intention to stand by Israel in its economic crisis, by increasing its aid, providing export opportunities and developing Israel's productive capacity. "It is still doubtful whether we can sell our military hardware to NATO members, and whether we can stand competition!" Israel's ability to benefit from these opportunities depends on its readiness and competence to compete with other leading industrial states, the paper says.

Haatsfeh comments that Mr. Reagan is still clinging to his Middle East peace initiative although Prime Minister Shamir thinks it conflicts with the spirit of Camp David. The US State Department is still against the settlements, and the Department of Defence is not convinced that the sale of advanced weapons to Saudi Arabia will threaten the security of Israel. Even though US officials have pledged to defend Israel, they have also expressed an interest in reinforcing relations with Arab regimes.

"Reagan was keen to impose his pro-Israeli policy on members of his cabinet but we cannot be sure whether Weinberger and Shultz are adhering," Haatsfeh writes. "Generally, we can say that Reagan is translating the good spirit which prevailed towards us in Washington into reality. But still there are mines on the road."

Koteret Rasbit writes that the Israeli-PLO prisoner exchange is still creating echoes among the public. Israeli Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan is launching a campaign against the returning prisoners and requesting that they be tried by a military tribunal. "Eitan has issued his judgement on those prisoners before they were accused of any offence. He behaves like this because he is outside the army now, but had he been in the army he would have been among the welcoming crowd."

Those responsible for the victorious atmosphere that accompanied the release of the prisoners will make it difficult to negotiate for the release of other prisoners still with Jibril group, the paper predicts.

Turning to the domestic economy, Ha-modia asks whether the new finance minister will be able to achieve his targets. "We cannot tell yet! Suppose all his ideas were applicable, even then, could he control inflation when he has to face opposition to every new idea he comes up with?"

When he tried to write off \$2 billion from the budget Mr. Cohn-Orand had to compromise with the opposition. The same thing happened with the Histadrut, the doctor's group, civil servants and university employees. With so many obstacles in his path, the finance minister needs more than luck to succeed, Ha-modia writes.

Haaretz, noting that no agreement has been reached yet on the payment of advance cost of living allowance, says there are still differences around the request of employers to reduce the percentages on which the cost of living is calculated.

"Placing a heavy burden on the industrial sector will force many factories to reduce their work and even close down their plants," the Israeli paper warns.



# The Jerusalem Star

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Published every Thursday in Amman by the Jordan Press & Publishing Co.  
(Ad-Dawlat), Tel. 21392 Media Jo. Tel. 667177, 8, 9

## A reminder to all

THE BUS explosion in occupied Jerusalem on Tuesday, which killed and injured more than 90 people, is probably the first of its kind since the late 1970s that has been executed by the Palestinian resistance movement inside the occupied territories. The importance of this attack is not in the number of people killed or injured, but rather in the timing and the location.

First, this is a reminder to the advocates of the "Peace for Galilee" invasion of Lebanon inside and outside Israel that their scheme of suffocating the Palestinian resistance and moving it from the way is a dream that can never be realized. The Israelis have to realize that they are not facing the Palestine Liberation Organization only but the whole of the Palestinian population, who are determined to fight for their rights and under any circumstances.

Second, the incident is really a slap in the face of the Israeli military and occupation authorities. They will recognize the fact, especially after such an attack, that whatever they do inside the Palestinian lands they will always face the nightmare of national rejection to the occupation and its horrors in the bloodiest of ways, which is the language that almost all of them understand very well.

Third, one point that should be noted is that the PLO proved through Tuesday's operation that it has a well-built infrastructure inside the occupied territories that can carry out such attacks and on specific targets. This is a message to Israel and its agents that they should comprehend clearly before they give the green light to their assassins to shoot down PLO representatives in world capitals. The PLO can strike inside Israel and in the heart of the Zionist entity.

For those who might call the bus attack an act of terrorism we say that they have no right to talk about terrorism when Israel chose to kill, arrest and expel Palestinians from their homes and ignored all UN resolutions calling for the recognition of Palestinian rights. Surely, the Palestinians are the only people who can tell the world about real terrorism: the genocide, that Israel is executing against a whole nation.

## Striking at shadows

WE HAVE tried our hardest to avoid coming to this conclusion, but try as we might, it keeps pressing itself upon us: President Reagan of the United States actually seems to want a war. We may still be able to avoid stating this definitively, depending on what may happen in the coming weeks, but recent events do not seem encouraging.

First there was the invasion of Granada. Then Mr. Reagan showed his nerve and "level-headedness" by swamping the island with Marines almost before the ink was dry on the "invitation" that he had managed to elicit from other states of the area. This made us shudder to think what might happen if he ever received a similar call from a state such as Israel... but we need not worry about that, since American troops are here in the Middle East already.

It was in Europe that we saw one of the most chilling examples of the present US administration's apparent zest for conflict. Ignoring all appeals by the thousands of people who don't want their homes used as nuclear missile launch pads, and failing to heed the Soviet Union when it showed that it really did want to cut down on medium-range missiles, Mr. Reagan held on to the bitter end. He succeeded in his determination to get the death-dealing weapons into Europe regardless of their effect on negotiations. Mr. Reagan's British fellow traveller, Defence Secretary Heseltine, said a few days later that the Soviets' offer to exclude British and French missiles from the Geneva talks was a sign of the success of the policy of negotiation under the gun. But if that was so, why didn't the West then at least pause?

But as if that wasn't enough, the president this week decided not to wait for a full-scale global conflict to arise. He took a step that could hardly have been better calculated to ignite such a conflict, in blasting Syrian positions in Lebanon. The Americans say Sunday's air raid was provoked by Syrian fire against US reconnaissance planes — but what country would not shoot to protect its own military units from foreign aircraft in a war zone?

In this raid and in his other aggressive actions of the past months, Mr. Reagan reminds of a demotivated character alone in his dark room, striking out vainly at the empty shadows. He imagines to be so full of mortal danger. We can only hope that somebody stops him before he manages to hit someone who can deliver a real punch in return — a punch which could threaten all of us.



Najil Al-Ali

## Arabs should fight Jewish lobby in US elections

By Pascal B. Karoy

THE ELECTIONS for the President of the United States, one third of the Senate and all members of the House of Representatives will take place in November of next year. The American politicians have started to outline their future policies. Certainly the issues pertaining to Middle East such as Palestine and Israel, will be among the important world issues. The Zionist lobby in the US is already active and diligent to back up candidates who will support outright Israel and oppose those who are not necessarily against Israel but who are simply impartial and objective in their policies.

Consequently as in all American election campaigns the Zionist-Jewish American lobbies will spend substantial amounts of money to achieve their purposes. The defeat of Senators Findlay, Fulbright and McCloskey in the last elections is an example of how Zionist money influence the elections. Presently Charles Percy, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the senate is likely to be defeated in the forthcoming election — a result of the Zionist lobbies' intensive and abusive campaign against him through media and in other means. It is not because he is a pro-Arab but merely because he follows an objective and fair policy vis-a-vis the Middle East conflict.

The Arabs should offer financial support to candidates for the presidency such as McGovern who, although not pro-Arab yet it seems from his campaign statements that he will adopt a neutral policy for the Middle East keeping the American interest in mind. While other candidates such as Glenn are heaping praise on Israel, McGovern has declared that he will not commit American troops or American aid to support either Israeli or Arab actions that are at cross-purposes with the fundamental values and interests of America. (Refer to Jerusalem Star No. 15 to 3 November 1983). This is indeed unusual when it is well-known that normally

all candidates in the election campaigns, especially for the US presidency, seek the support of Jewish lobbies by making extravagant declarations in favour of Israel.

The question now is why the Arab states also and in particular the oil-rich Gulf states do not contribute money generously to the Arab-American associations in the US to enable them to play a vital role in the American election campaigns by bolstering candidates who will support Arab causes especially the Palestine cause or who will at least sympathize with those causes in the political forums such as the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Arab states' contributions in those campaigns should match those of the Zionist organizations so as to effectively compete with them. Indeed the Gulf states can do so despite the decrease in the oil revenues.

In addition the Arab Americans living in the US could be persuaded to contribute within their financial means just as every Jew in America and even in the world contribute money for Jewish causes and especially to Israel. It is well-known that the rich Jew who does not contribute will be boycotted and ostracised by the Jewish community and his business as a result ruined.

Is it idealistic to urge Arab states and all Arab peoples to challenge the Zionist lobbies in the US election campaign in the present circumstances of the Arab states? I do not think so since the matter has nothing to do with their divisions and quarrels and they have the financial means but they lack the will to do so. We should see further than the tips of our noses if we want to defend our common causes and to have a really effective voice in world politics.

Pascal B. Karoy is a legal consultant and a regular contributor to The Star.

## letters

### A note from Wendy Rogers

To the editor:

The Wendy Rogers Dance Company performed in August at the Jersah Festival of Culture and the Arts. A staff reporter of The Jerusalem Star interviewed Ms. Rogers and wrote an article describing the company and their new dance, "Jerash," which appeared in the 18 August issue of the paper.

We would like to thank you for including the article in that issue. Also, we would like to thank the reporter, Kathy Kakish, for her sensitive, very interesting treatment of the information included in the piece.

Discovering and reading The Jerusalem Star added interest to our very enjoyable stay in Amman. We hope to return soon and look forward to seeing new friends again!

Sarah Berger  
Manager  
Berkeley,  
California

## Kamel Abu Jaber



## "The strategic co-operative agreements"

Greetings to Jerusalem!

WERE ALL the weapons in the Arab world, including those in Egypt and Iraq, perhaps even those in Iran to be pointed at Israel, they still would not constitute a danger to Israel. And yet, following a very short visit to the United States, so short that so much could not have been agreed upon in that brief time, Prime Minister Shamir succeeded in concluding a Strategic Co-operative Agreement with the United States.

How was that accomplished so quickly? Does Israel need more security? Security against whom? What did the Arabs do to deserve this new punishment, phenomenon, degradation? What is expected of them now? Where should they turn? These and many other questions come immediately to mind. They are certainly questions of great importance not only to the Arabs but to the region as a whole for it would seem that nothing was in the cards that would prompt Washington to conclude such an alliance. It is now a formalized alliance that exists between the United States and Israel and regardless of whatever name it may be given. An alliance against whom?

The camouflage and the propaganda static surrounding the signing of the agreements said it was directed against the penetration of the area by the Soviet Union. Does it need to be emphasized here that if such presence or penetration by the Soviets were at all a reality, it is mostly because of Israel and her expansionist and violent punishments of the area? Neither Syria nor any other Arab country would have felt the need to seek its security by purchasing weapons elsewhere.

The strategic co-operation agreements are a tragedy whose dimensions will be felt in the area for a long time to come. They are so devastatingly one-sided and so unwarranted that they leave the so-called modernities of the area tongue-tied and totally embarrassed. Even if they do not admit at the moment, what is in their minds, their deepened sense of betrayal and frustration, must of necessity, force them to begin to think of other alternatives, avenues and approaches.

Furthermore, these agreements were not needed because they will not only add to the area's already burgeoning bipolarization, but will definitely add to further its violence and radicalization. At least the 1950 Tripartite Agreement gave guarantees to all the countries of the area, yet even that was viewed with suspicion.

Israel is of course satisfied with the results. Surely the area is now so bipolarized that no significant progress towards peace can be achieved. Further any Arab move will now be viewed against the background of this bipolarization. But why does the United States need to sign such a formal pact? What it already supplied to Israel not enough? The moral, political, economic and military support was already so enormous that it defied all the rules of logic of even abnormal intercourse between states. Or was the move only another humiliating reminder to the Arabs that they cannot protect themselves let alone the area and that only Israel can do that?

Whether the Arabs like it or not, Israel, it would seem, has been made their protector against "Soviet advances". Two questions come to mind: What Soviet advances and why are the Arabs in need of protection against the Soviets in the first place, but for Israel? The second question: Do the Arabs need further humiliating lessons and are there really any Arabs left? Arabia that will stand up and defend their dignity and integrity?

Within hours of his return to the area, twenty-eight American planes attacked the Syrian positions in Lebanon. Some American planes were downed, and within hours, American positions on the ground were heavily shelled and eight more American soldiers lost their lives. On 5 November, 1983, radio Israel, which apparently keeps count, said that 264 American soldiers had lost their lives since coming to Lebanon. One of the Israeli newspapers, HaSofeh was quoted by radio Israel as saying that Israel is now content because this is the only language the "enemy" understands.

The word "enemy" used by the newspaper referred to the Arabs in general and to the Syrians in particular. How that came about is a question that should be addressed to the Americans as for the Syrians, they want their occupied lands back and they want an honourable resolution of the Palestine problem. May be in the logic of this world this is too much to ask. May be, for we have stopped knowing what is right and what is wrong anymore but the agreements were wrong. Even former Secretary of State, Mr. Vance stated they were not needed, the "friendship" that already existed, he said, between the United States and Israel was enough.

## opinion

### Middle East Zionist headache

IT IS almost impossible to rightly assess the implications of the US-Israeli accord concluded by Shamir on behalf of Israel last week, and definitely considered as the most significant event that has happened recently. One would have liked not to delve into such a serious issue and to have left it to politicians to discuss, condemn, attack, or to defend, but for the lethargic effect it would have upon Arab mentality, so deeply already given to self-resignation and fatalism, if it were to be discarded and glossed over. It is because one is afraid that public opinion would get accustomed to the happy misery of giving in, best expressed by the English poet, Lord Tennyson in a line from *Morte d'Arthur's* which said, "Lost old 'good' custom should remain and corrupt the world" — that one takes up the pen to talk about this last-hour issue.

To the sophisticated well-informed, the 'accords' have not come as a surprise. On the contrary, it has been expected as the last stroke on the line America has so far been taking towards the Arabs ever since President Truman declared his recognition of the state of Israel in 1948. The accords are only the sequel to the strategy of alliance between the US and Israel underwritten by both countries only over a year ago. There is nothing new about the economic and military aid America is offering to Israel this time. Did not such aids help Israel to pave and prepare for its invasion of Lebanon?

What is really new about the agreement is what Shamir, the Israeli prime minister referred to when he told reporters on his return from the US that "one of its immediate goals will be to find ways to counter growing Soviet involvement in our region". The scenario of American-Israeli involvement in the area, with all its terrible effect upon Arab solidarity and on the Palestine question and Lebanon has to be forgotten. The Israeli refusal to withdraw from the occupied territories and to stop the occupation and foreign unwarranted presence, very soon bound to enter its seventeenth

By Henry Matar

Israeli-Lebanese pact for withdrawing foreign troops. Mind you, all such calamities, as well as the breaking of the back bone of Palestinian resistance have to be sent into oblivion, and with them the reason therefore. Now it is no longer the security of Israel, but the necessity of countering Soviet involvement that has to be given top priority by the Arabs at the back and call of Tel-Aviv and Washington decision makers.

Let it be understood that Arabs have nothing to do with the Soviet-American confrontation, especially if it has been the outcome of the anti-Arab policy imposed upon the Middle East and if it is going to be carried on Arab soil and at the expense of Arab peace of mind and body. No, what Arabs are really concerned about is the expansionist policy of Israel both inside Palestine and outside it.

Inside Palestine — including that sector of Palestinians now living in Israel proper — the main colouring of the picture points to Judaization of Arab heritage and land, to the expulsion of a good number of natives into a new exodus and diaspora, the turning of the survivors in Palestine into a third-class landless economically impotent proletarians, and to the implantation of Zionist settlements legally considered illegitimate except by recent remarks made by the other signatory to the accords.

Outside Palestine, the Palest-

inian diaspora individuals have lost their identity and very often they are unwanted everywhere. Outside Palestine, too, and particularly in Lebanon, Israel is trying to create a puppet state on all the four political, economic, military and even cultural levels. The same pattern, repeating the same story is being shaped in the Golan Heights, already annexed to Israel as the Galilee and northern Palestine were in 1948. And all this is nothing but the beneficial charity of the good-willed Israeli-American involvement in the area.

What a crazy talk! Have not Israel and her great ally granted their good-willed peace to Egypt? Did not Sadat visit Jerusalem, and sign the Camp David Accords? Sadat's move was made to prove to the West and Arabs wanted real peace, and had nothing to do with Soviet influence in the Middle East. But what was the result? Only more and more headache to the Arab world. Even the frail move made by America to grant Palestinians autonomous rule under foreign occupation defeated itself for the very reason it was given under the auspices of those who seized Palestinian territory and for the other stroke it received when the benefactor acknowledged the legitimacy of Zionist settlements. A really positive move should not stop short of recognizing Palestinian rights to self-determination and to the establishment of their state on their own native soil.

As for the Arabs, they have more often than not taken the wrong attitude towards fate — determining issues. Either they have always spent their breath in loud-ringing denunciation of serious measures endangering their very survival (most often made for local consumption), held conferences to evade the issue with similar high sounding impractical resolution or general principle, or have done nothing in face of the forthcoming catastrophe. Only such a catastrophe can happen, did they begin to raise their protests and lamentations. The Arabs must not any longer leave their lands and very being to be the target of any further premeditated aggression.

## Memorandum

### Bread for words

AMMAN IS becoming the Arab capital of multi-faceted conferences and meetings that cover subjects ranging from the state of philosophy in the Arab world to Arab self-sufficiency in the medicine industry. I am sure you have a general idea on how much these pan-Arab conferences cost in terms of preparations, coverage, time spent and money. What bothers me is not the amount of money effort that is put into such meetings, but rather the results.

For instance, watching the Arabic television news one night, the local news covered the opening of more than three regional and international meetings held in Amman in one day. I monitored the news for about a week and found that there were an average of three to four conferences and seminars taking place in Amman in one week. Almost all of these gatherings are covered by the media and are attended by well-known experts and participants, but I noticed that at the end no one was eager to talk about the decisions because they will not be put into action for one reason or another.

Ask why and you will get many answers to choose from: This country will not pay its dues and that one does not approve of this resolution or that, while another state was attending only as an observer. Think of it: In

the last five years or so there must have been more than 1000 meetings by Arab thinkers, philosophers, doctors, teachers, engineers, journalists, hotel managers and others to discuss their problems. Our educational system still suffers, journalists are still suppressed, philosophers are still arguing and I believe we are going backwards in almost all aspects of our daily practice.

Another thing that worries me is that all so-called intellectuals, specialists, state ministers and other government officials who attend and organize such meetings seem to be far and remote from Arab realities. They do not relate to the common man who is, theoretically speaking, suffering from so many ailments while the intellectuals are out to assist him. I don't buy that and for the last 1000 or more conferences the Arab individual has kept away from such meetings because the first 100 did not deliver what they promised him.

Let us forget about these meetings and conferences. Let us buy bread and new clothes and toys and send a blind child to a modern hospital somewhere in Europe with the money allocated for such gatherings. It will take a long time for promises to materialize and for the happy and content Arab individual to exist.



# Professional work from amateur photographers

By Fadla Faqir  
Special to the Star

"TRANSFORMING OUR culture and the beauty of our country into photos enables people all over the world to appreciate what we have, but this doesn't mean that photos can represent our culture perfectly because they are only selected scenes captured at specific moments from a certain perspective," said Munir Al-Assi, a member of the Jordan University Students Photography Club (JUSPC), which is about to mount another exhibition of its members' work.

Besides the organization of exhibitions and the exchange of experiences, the club arranges theoretical and practical lectures to help amateur photographers develop and polish their talents. A schedule of trips is also organized so that students can photograph touristic sites.

JUSPC was established for amateur photographers by the Artistic Activities Department of the Deanship of Student Affairs in co-operation with the Photography Department in the Faculty of Science in the first semester of the scholastic year 1982-83.

The first exhibition of these amateurs was held on 24 November, 1982. During the Annual University Festival in May 1983, the club's second exhibition was held. Their third exhibition, which will include a big collection of photos on several topics such as nature in Jordan, will be held from 17-21 December at Jordan University Library's Exhibitions Hall. This exhibition will be transferred on the 25th to Yarmouk University, where it will remain on display until the 27th.

JUSPC members have participated in many local and international photography contests, including the one for pictures portraying Spring and Flowers in Jordan; the winter in Jordan contest which was organized by Jordan Photography Club, and the International Student Photography Contest held in April 1983 in Canada.

"Painters use colours to create new combinations. Photographers, similar to writers, select from the already existing combinations," Muhammad Sarreef, a member of JUSPC, told The Star.

But no matter how good Jordanian photographers may become, they still face a problem of recognition. "Foreign experts are classified as 'number one' regardless of Jordanians' abilities and capabilities. This also applies to photography," Munir said.

The pictures in the club's third exhibition, some of which are reproduced here, may help to dispel that conception.



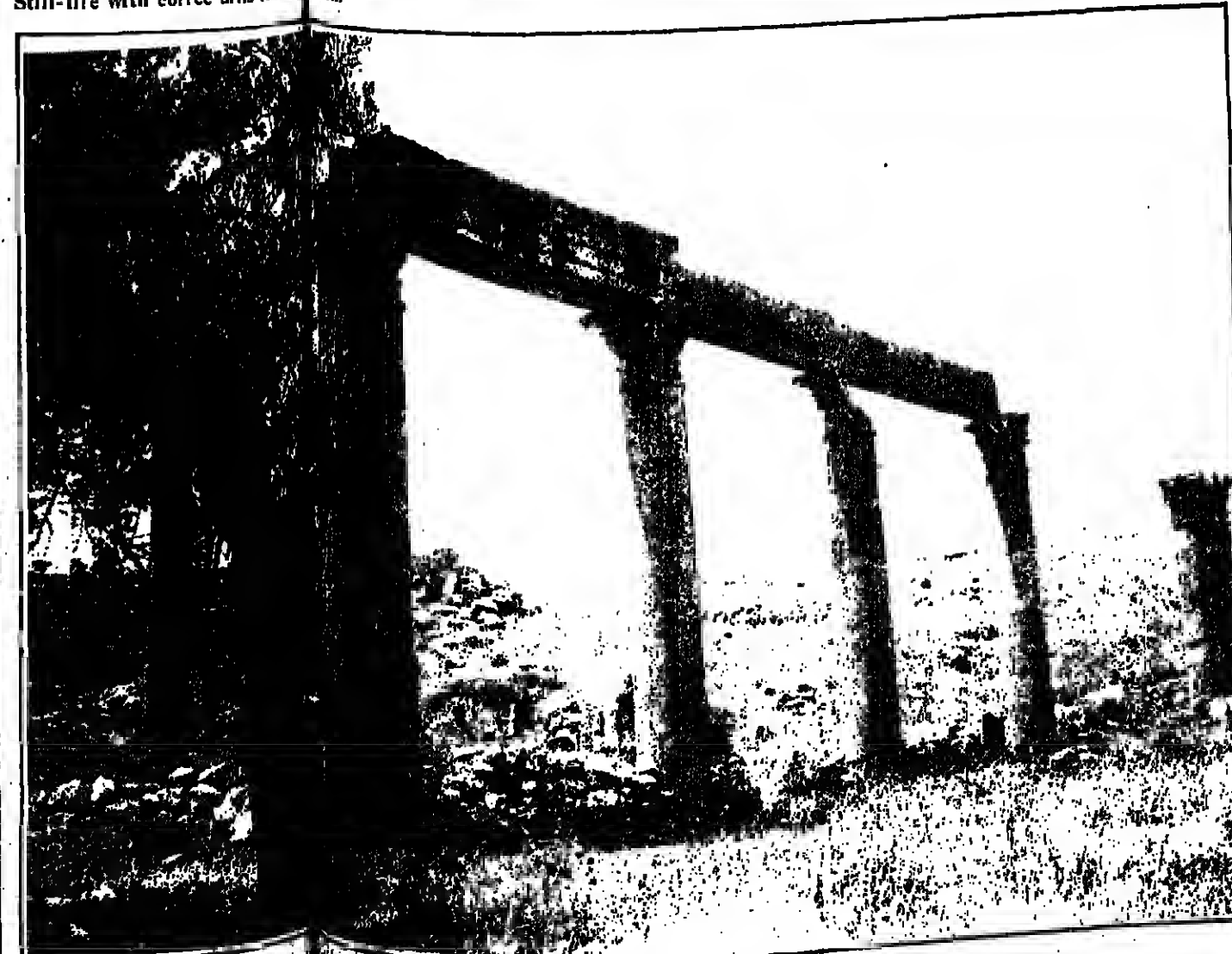
Minaret of the University of Jordan mosque after snow (Munir Al-Assi)



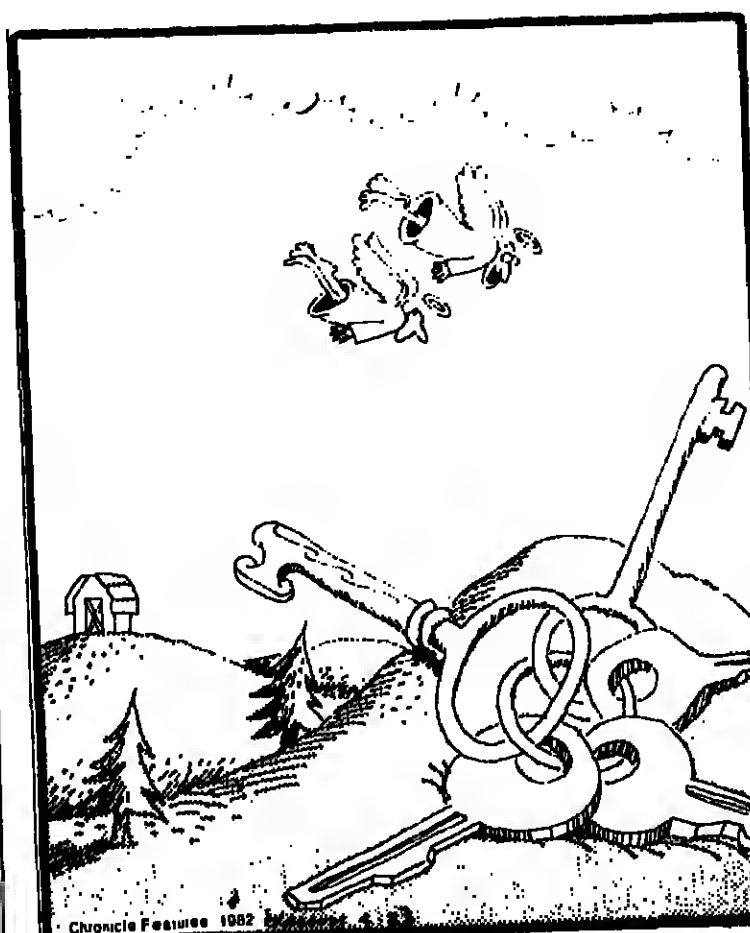
Tree-lined walkway (Marwan Ghanam)



Still-life with coffee urns (Munir Al-Assi)

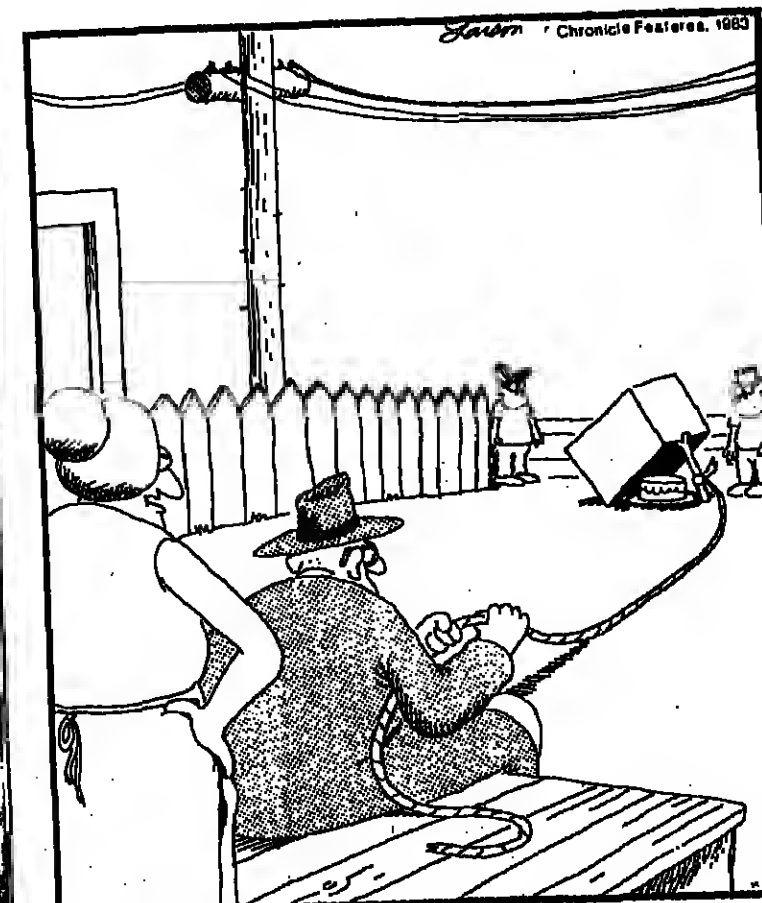


The North Decumanus at Jerash (Marwan Ghanam)



"Quick! ... Run up and tell HIM we found them!"

## The Far Side By Gary Larson



"Good heavens, Charles! You're at it again! And with my fresh sponge cake, I see!"



## 'Europe will not limit itself to declarations'

Excerpts from a television interview given by West German Foreign Minister Mr. Hans Dietrich Genscher on Germany, Europe and the Middle East — Editor.

Question: Is the European reaction to the increasingly critical situation in the Middle East limited to the declaration of the countries of Europe made at the Athens Conference you have just returned from?

Answer: Certainly not, even though it was important to make our position clear once again, i.e. that we want the fighting to stop and that in dealing with the problem in Lebanon we must not lose sight of the question at the root of the entire Middle East problem, the realization of the Palestinian right of self-determination. The situation there is extremely critical, since in speaking of the Middle East we must of course include the war between Iraq and Iran. Europe has an active responsibility to fulfil. Three European Community member states are providing troops for the multinational peace-keeping force with the political support of the other partners.

It is our conviction that Europe should create incentives for Lebanese national reconciliation among the groups that took part in the conference in Geneva by providing a material contribution to the development and reconstruction of the country. Encouraging progress has been made, but, needless to say, many problems still remain to be solved. Thus, Europe cannot and will not limit itself to making declarations. Assistance in national reconstruction and a contribution to relative stability through the multinational peace-keeping force is an important contribution Europe can make to overcoming the conflict in Lebanon.

Q — Many people who were once very critical of Arafat are now expressing regret that he may be stepping down as the PLO leader. Have the Americans, the Europeans, including yourself, always understood Arafat? Have mistakes been made here?

A — It is not a question of understanding him correctly. We have always asked ourselves how we might be able to exert an influence on the parties to the conflict in the Middle East so as to contribute to a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian question in terms of a realization of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. After the fact it will always be possible to say we might have exerted more influence in this or that situation. What needs to be done now is to look to the future and this means that the conflict in Lebanon, where the forces of different states are facing one another, must be overcome so that problems do not result from the Lebanese domestic situation that have implications reaching far beyond Lebanon itself and which could lead to a dangerous military confrontation.

Q — A confrontation involving the two superpowers?

A — Everything must be done to avoid this happening. For this reason it is important that the states with military contingents there exercise the greatest reserve and calm. I think that the reaction of the United States and France in view of the terrorist attacks on their troop contingents in the peace-keeping force shows the great measure of responsibility and cool-headedness with which these two friends and allies react.

## Three congressmen talk to The Star

LAST MAY, His Majesty King Hussein extended an invitation to US congressmen and senators to visit the Middle East. On 2 December the first three congressmen: Nick Rahal of West Virginia, Haward Nielson of Utah and John Erlenborn of Illinois, arrived in Amman on a five day fact finding mission to both Jordan and the West Bank. Star Staff Writer Amal Ghandour talked to the congressmen. Here are excerpts of the interview:

LAST MAY, His Majesty King Hussein extended an invitation to US congressmen and senators to visit the Middle East. On 2 December the first three congressmen: Nick Rahal of West Virginia, Haward Nielson of Utah and John Erlenborn of Illinois, arrived in Amman on a five day fact finding mission to both Jordan and the West Bank. Star Staff Writer Amal Ghandour talked to the congressmen. Here are excerpts of the interview:

### On President Reagan's peace initiative

Congressman Rahal: The Reagan initiative is a good starting point for future peace talks. It was a courageous statement by an American president, but it was not followed up in the ensuing months. It should be noted before we start talking about the reasons for the collapse of the Jordanian-PLO talks that Israel was the first country to reject the initiative. So, the initiative is a good beginning, especially if the US helps to bring about a more favourable atmosphere by pressing Israel to freeze its settlement policy.

Congressman Nielson: I do not think the Reagan initiative is dead, but that it was shelved temporarily because of changing events in the area. I think that after Arafat comes out of his present situation, he should have a more realistic view, and resume talks with King Hussein to find common grounds of agreement. And undoubtedly,

Israel, on its part, should stop its settlement building on the West Bank.

Congressman Erlenborn: The Reagan initiative still has a chance. But the search for peace in the Middle East has been a painstaking process for diplomatic channels in bringing the majority of the Arab countries to unify their stance and interests. The difficulty is that we often talk about the problem as though it was a two party situation: the Israelis on the one hand, and the Arabs on the other. The Arab world actually has many different countries and the PLO is divided into various factions. I think that the Arab governments, including the PLO, have to decide on a unified statement of principle. This would definitely strengthen the Arab hand in any future peace negotiations.

### On the new strategic alliance agreement between the US and Israel:

Congressman Rahal: We have found, thus far, that the agreement has created very adverse repercussions in the Arab world. It might further damage the US credibility from what we have heard in our discussions with Jordanian officials.

Congressman Nielson: It seems that the moderate Arab forces feel that the US has deserted them. They think that Washington, through this agreement, is giving complete support to Israel at the expense of their needs and demands, which is going to rob them from a strong defence against certain extremist groups. This is the greatest fear of all.

### On the Sunday incident which resulted in the downing of American jet by Syria:

Congressman Erlenborn: Missiles were fired on American reconnaissance planes on Sunday and we made it clear that there will be response to any threat to the safety of the Marines. It is regrettable, though understandable.

### On the latest Shamir-Reagan meeting:

Congressman Nielson: We still would like to talk to all parties involved. There are no indications that we are not willing to see the Lebanese, the Syrians and even the PLO resolve their differences.

Congressman Rahal: I think that the Syrians had to reject the 17 May agreement. They felt they were neglected and that the US was rewarding Israel for an invasion and occupation. But a compromise has to be reached with the support of Syria and attempts should be made to find viable alternatives through diplomatic channels.

### On the refusal of Congress to provide Jordan with F16 fighter planes:

Congressman Erlenborn: It is a reflection of the lobbying activity by the pro-Israel group. It is no secret to anyone that they have a great influence in the US Congress.

Congressman Rahal: The Israeli stand has to be the number one reason. I hope that their (Israeli) opposition will be waned following Prime Minister Shamir's last visit to Washington. A congressman on the Appropriations Committee offered to link up the development of the Israeli Lavi fighter plane technology to the delivery of the F16s to Jordan. This might be a positive step towards Congress approval of the selling of the fighter planes.

## US: Aiding Israel into economic dependence

By Yitzhak Rabin

THE AMERICAN aid to Israel was among the most important issues in the Washington talks between the Israeli prime minister and defence minister on one side and US officials on the other. This US aid to Israel has a special significance at this time when Israel is facing a serious economic crisis while facing Syrian threats. There are voices inside Israel nowadays saying that US aid had not been utilised as it should be.

A report on US aid to Israel prepared by Dr. Leopold Lauffer and published by the Davis International Relations Institute in Jerusalem, provides the opportunity for us to understand the stages of development of US aid to Israel compared to that offered to other countries including those of similar strategic importance to the United States.

The importance of US aid appears in the amount of money offered to Israel since 1949 and until today, which comes to a minimum of \$25.5 billion from which \$17 billion come as grants and military assistance, and \$5.8 billion as economic aid. \$2 billion also were granted to Israel within other projects.

Israel receives seven times as much as the Philippines to which the US attaches great strategic importance. The Philippines has 50 million people compared to Israel's 4 million. US aid to Israel could be weighed by comparison with the Marshall plan initiated in 1948 to help European countries and which lasted for three years, costing the US \$10.2 billion.

The first 14 years following the creation of Israel, US military aid to Israel was ignored because the United States did not want to involve itself in the armament race between the Arab countries and Israel. After 1966, Israeli relations with France deteriorated thus exposing Israel to a great danger. During 1966 the US granted Israel a loan \$99 million for its security. In 1967 Israel received military assistance amounting to \$7 million only. In 1968 \$25 million, in 1969 \$85 million, in 1970 \$30 million and in 1971 \$45 million. The picture changed drastically in 1972 and 1973 when US aid to Israel totalled \$607.5 million in loans.

In the wake of the 1973 war, the US granted Israel \$1.5 billion in addition to \$982.7 million in war supplies. Ever since Israel has been receiving military assistance. In 1976 two types of aid emerged: \$750 million as a loan and an equal amount as a grant. Following the Camp David accord in 1979, Israel received \$2.7 billion in military aid and donations amounting to \$1.3 billion. In



Yitzhak Rabin

1982 the total loans reached \$850 million and grants reached \$550 million. During 1982 the US Congress adjusted the terms of military assistance to become \$850 million for each type of assistance.

### Aid converted into grants

In 1949 the US offered Israel a loan of \$100 million and in 1951 another loan for \$35 million was offered to Israel through the Export-Import Bank. In 1952 the US started granting Israel actual economic aid in the form of grants that would enable Israel to absorb the new immigrants. These grants totalled \$86.4 million. Grants to Israel were maintained until 1970 when the US granted Israel eco-

nomie aid amounting to \$40.7 million and a grant of \$400,000 only. In 1972 economic aid equalled the amount of loans. Following the 1973 war grants increased and after 1981 all the US economic aid became grants.

If we consider the huge Israeli foreign debts we can understand this important development: converting loans into grants. The same applies to military assistance when in 1971 Israel received significant assistance from which 38 per cent was in grants.

The discussions in Washington aimed at guaranteeing that all military assistance to Israel be in the form of grants. In this case the Israeli foreign debts will look formidable.

Since 1972 the US economic aid to Israel became more flexible and less tied to specific purchases. During the last two years the economic aid became simply a transfer of cash from the US to Israel in four annual instalments.

The only restriction of this US aid to Israel was that it should not be expended on projects in the West Bank and Gaza, and that 50 per cent of wheat shipments to Israel had to be carried by American vessels.

### Shrinking the deficit

The general development of US aid to Israel, although satisfactory, it explains how far Israel is dependent on the United States. Americans have not yet used the pressure provided by this aid to press on Israel. Still this situation is unhealthy, as Dr. Lauffer explains. The only way to make Israel less dependent on the US is to cut down deficit in the balance of payments, as the new finance minister is trying to do.

Did Israel use US assistance in projects that will help in cutting down the deficit? The answer is definitely not. It is necessary for Americans to watch that what we are doing with the economic aid to Israel is not to make Israel more dependent on the US. The political independence was not the target of those who engineer the Israeli policy.

Yediot Aharanot

## 'The Day After' invokes the Palestinian tragedy

By Abdulsalam Y. Massarueh  
Star Washington Correspondent

MORE THAN 100 million Americans glued to the television screen on a rainy last month, watching the ABC television movie "The Day After", which depicts the nuclear holocaust that might befall on the United States if a thermonuclear attack takes place between the two superpowers. The result of such a catastrophe will be loss of about two billion lives according to Carl Sagan, a world renowned scientist, as well as famine, pestilence and diseases.

While watching the movie events and images which were portrayed on the screen seemed to me like a newsreel from tragedies that befell on the Palestinian people. In the movie one can see the pictures of the devastation in Kansas city. On the same television screen we saw last summer the Sabra and Shatila can graves for the victims of men's brutality and hate. The graves were the same as the graves in the rubble of devastation and destruction, but the address, although it was fictitious, was different.

Moving through watching the camps which were erected for the people who became homeless, one is reminded of the camp outside the Palestinian refugee camps which some barbarians are planning to demolish in their bid to erase the Palestinian presence from the world. The profanity perpetrated in the name of improvement in Tripoli and the camps of Sabra and Nahr Al Bared are examples. The extermination of the human race is going on now, no matter what the US and the Soviet Union call it, and no matter what Haliz Assad and Qadhafi and Israel call it.

The television pictures that the same network carried out last year from Downtown Beirut, were like the same pictures, the imaginary movie "The Day After" of demolished and destroyed Downtown Kansas city. But when as observer looks at the pictures of destruction by an Arab army, Syria, of the beautiful city of Tripoli he can always think about the beautiful city of Hama, which was destroyed by Assad's forces and butchers, in the name of fore-

saking the regime and keeping the president in power.

The hungry people, 100 million Americans who were shown on television Sunday 20 November, are a continuation of the millions of hungry Palestinians who were kicked out of their homes in 1948 — paraded through the streets of life for more than half a dozen times, from one

place to another, were flashing in the mind and hearts of those who saw the movie "The Day After" and it reminds them that there is a limit to human cruelty to others, and it is belittling that the scenes were in the United States.

Look at the injured in the movie and you can see the makeshift hospitals which were bombed by the "civilized" world.



A scene from ABC's "The Day After" — result of a nuclear war

camp to the other, while the leaders of the world, including the Arab world, were subjected to the same barbarity the medical annex of the university of Kansas in Lawrence was subjected to in the nuclear war between the Russians and the US in the film. The bombs which were dropped on these hospitals in West Beirut last year are reminiscent to the hospitals which were made in the school gymnasium in the movie. When the main buildings of the hospitals in Lebanon were destroyed, inhuman and human heroes erected makeshift hospitals in the garages and the basements of houses in order to help people in need.

When the Palestinian refugees stood in line for meagre rations of the world community through the offices of UNRWA, which is practicing selective punishment on the Palestinians who do

and its surrogate Israel in Lebanon. The Palestine Red Crescent Society hospitals were subjected to the same barbarity the medical annex of the university of Kansas in Lawrence was subjected to in the nuclear war between the Russians and the US in the film. The bombs which were dropped on these hospitals in West Beirut last year are reminiscent to the hospitals which were made in the school gymnasium in the movie. When the main buildings of the hospitals in Lebanon were destroyed, inhuman and human heroes erected makeshift hospitals in the garages and the basements of houses in order to help people in need.

The limbs of dead, injured and mutilated people, as was shown on the screen in the US, were similar to the limbs and pieces of bodies which were collected by good natured and dedicated European doctors and Palestinian staff members from the rubble of Sabra and Shatila. Burial El Karajneh and Al Rashidiyah refugee camps.

The stench which filled the air and contaminated complete neighbourhoods was the same stench which came out from the corpses of the dead in the camps of Sabra and Shatila and other parts of Beirut. Man's cruelty knows no border. Language or religion. But even the people remained in their homes or whatever left of them in basements and the underground sections, were able to come out in the open and claim a new life. But a Palestinian, these days, can not come out from under the rubble and claim that he has a home and that he wants to start all over again. The Palestinian has been going through the process of the "final solution" that racist German established for the Jews and implemented in the Auschwitz and other concentration camps. The life of these Palestinian refugees who are taking refuge in Badawi and Nahr Al Bared are much worse than those people whom we watched in the movie "The Day After", because they have no place to go and some "civilized" Arabs want them to be chased again and again.

The hope that came about the Palestinians in Beirut last year when a baby named "Palestine" was delivered from her dying mother's womb is similar in strength and challenge to the world, to the birth of the baby infant who was delivered by able doctors of the makeshift hospital in the university of Kansas medical centre. There was a message that the screen writers of this movie intended to tell the world that is never give up hope and you have to keep fighting.

The powerful movie "The Day After" is a proclamation that even among the devastation and destruction that the good should always prevail, even after many tragedies. The Palestinian people will have their day in court of justice of the world.

## A view on the Carter's Middle East conference

By Mark A. Bruzozsky  
Special to The Star

WASHINGTON — For four days early last month former President Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford hosted a "consultation" on the Middle East in Atlanta, Georgia — the city Americans increasingly think of as the capital of the south.

Ambassadors, foreign ministers, luminaries of different nationalities and perspectives — including the Russians — paraded their views before an awed Emory University audience that tended to give the two past presidents standing ovations and considerable deference.

Pictures of Carter at Camp David and Carter with Middle East leaders (mostly former ones) decorated the heavily guarded entrance hall. The 60 or 70 participants were whisked in and out, speeches were delivered with gusto and fanfare. And no matter how many times the organizers appealed to the audience for respectfully recorded mid-American reactions and attitudes.

With unusual regularity there were serious expressions of urgency about the tenuous situation in the Middle East, and frequently, of despair. Gerry Ford pounded the table at one point warning the Israelis, who were not there, that they would have to accommodate important American interests — this after Zbigniew Brzezinski made tough and pointed comments about how Israel and the US were on a rocky, potentially traumatic course with each other.

There were some Israelis, and they did participate in discussions with representatives from Arab countries, including Syria. But the Israeli government had the official representatives with the fallopian appendix that the PLO was invited.

Dr. Walid Khalidi from Harvard University and the Institute of Palestine Studies

dies was there, and as always eloquently presented the case for Palestinian nationalism. But the PLO was nowhere to be found — though the organization should indeed have been invited, and if not invited should have sent a representative to



Jimmy Carter

sit in anyway. Those who watched as spectators or journalists far outnumbered the actual participants.

According to Jimmy Carter, Menachem Begin had made him another of his rather unreliable promises this year making arrangements for this consultation. Indeed, it was termed a "consultation" because the intent was to bring representatives from the warring parties to an intellectual event for dialogue and a search for ways toward peace.

Begin, so Carter told the audience, had agreed to send a delegation to this inaugu-

ral event launching Carter's Centre for Conflict Resolution. Yet, after the rather serious matter of Begin's reneging on his promise at Camp David to freeze Israeli settlements, one would have expected Carter to be somewhat wary. Actually he was rather upset with the Israelis for defaulting from his consultation. But before the audience he took it all in stride, suggesting that maybe the change in government in Israel caused this little mix-up.

One is left only to surmise that the Israeli's Likud government had decided along to boycott in view of the positions being taken in public by Ford and Carter — most recently in their joint Readers Digest article. And so they made whatever excuse they could. Their absence was nothing short of contemptuous, with two former presidents of different parties presiding. Yet both Carter and Ford were generous to let the whole matter slide by, filling in with a few "unofficial" Israelis mostly with about what one would have expected the "official" ones would have expected. Ambassador Gideon Raphael, a respected senior Israeli Foreign Ministry official, often had provocative things to say, but one could not help from concluding that while the Middle East is rocketing into the next century, Ambassador Raphael had somehow missed most of the contemporary changes taking place in the Arab world, especially vis-a-vis the possibilities of an honorable peace with Israel.

Moreover, the Israeli government missed not only the chance to participate in a major event with important Arab dignitaries and to learn about the real possibilities for comprehensive peace negotiations. It missed as well an opportunity to experience and sense the achievements which continue to grow between the United States and theirs, no matter how much the Reagan administration attempts to create a pre-election era of good feelings.

The consultation organizers did make some attempt to "balance" the proceedings away from a singular focus on the Camp David "peace process". Crown Prince Hassan and the new Saudi Ambassador to the US, Prince Bandar, both gave superb addresses in which they thoughtfully and articulately criticized US policy and respectfully challenged the Camp David approach. The Syrian minister of state was also given his moment — and his talk was straightforward and well-conceived, though he was greeted with obvious hostility, skepticism, and, in some cases, incredulity, for the most part.

Jimmy Carter was often at his inquisitive, charming best — (including his graceful recovery when he slipped and introduced the Lebanese representative as having been sent by President Assad). But he too often portrayed ignorance of regional subtleties and cowardice about the state of US-Israeli relations — such as when he refused to even utter the term "Jewish lobby" in explaining how the Congress views the Middle East situation and why the Congress often doesn't follow the same course as the White House. "How can we in this country do what needs to be done when a former president is still such a coward," whispered one American colleague friendly with Carter but troubled by Carter's continuing reluctance to assert in public what are known to be his real views.

What was heard from the official representatives of Jordan and Saudi Arabia were but the tempered, "diplomatic," politically-rounded reflections of what is really going on within the Arab world.

Though Carter continues to believe his Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty the seminal event of his efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East, there were no representatives from Egypt at the Atlanta consultation to explain why that very same "Camp David peace process" has become the focus of so much scorn and derision.



# Lebanese poet spreads Gibran's message in the US

SUHAIL BUSHRUI is a Lebanese poet and scholar. Last month he toured the United States to meet as many Americans as possible and introduce them to the works of Lebanese author, Khalil Gibran.

Bushrui describes himself first and foremost as a poet. He is also a teacher, linguist and lecturer who said he thoroughly enjoyed meeting between 500 and 600 Americans during his one-month stay in the United States.

"Besides speaking to my fellow academicians, I made a point of meeting Americans from all walks of life — taxi drivers, porters, shoe shine people, tourists, sipping coffee at the counter next to me, talking to all these people has taught me more about this country than scholars could. My visit has been a real education," he said.

Bushrui said that he was interested in how the United States had influenced modern Arab poetry and revolutionized change in modern literature as a whole. His mission to the United States, he explained, was to make Americans aware of their Arab literary heritage and to present an exhibition on Khalil Gibran. Bicentennial observances for Gibran are currently taking place throughout the United States.

He said the struggle of his people to survive was revealed in the work of Khalil Gibran. Bushrui explained that Gibran and the many Lebanese who came to the United States at the beginning of the century retained a close link between their old country and the United States. These Arab writers in turn were responsible for the tremendous modern renaissance in Arab letters.

While he was in the United States, Bushrui gave a series of poetry readings and lectures on Gibran. On his first extended trip to the United States, Bushrui visited smaller colleges and centres of learning because there "I could reach people I thought might be more receptive to the ideas that Gibran speaks about," he explained.



Memorial to Khalil Gibran in Glibon Park, Boston

Bushrui described Gibran as a "Twentieth century author who does not appear in American English literature books."

"Lebanon, made Gibran and America formed him," he said, "but the works of Khalil Gibran appear nowhere in American English curriculums — only in Middle Eastern study programmes." He explained that this was because American English departments do not have sufficient knowledge of Arab writers. Thus, they do not know how to approach the study of Gibran or Arab American literature as a whole.

"Americans should remember," he said, "that at the turn of the century the sort of writing Gibran was doing was illustrative of the age. Gibran wrote during the time of Freud at a period when men rejected the idea of a deity. This tradition has continued up to very recently. Gibran was that other voice touching our hearts, our conscience, our souls. It was that aspect we can never reach except by the word and the spirit."

When Bushrui first arrived in the United States, he attended a conference of the Middle East Studies Association of North America in Chicago, Illinois. There he chaired a panel dealing with the vision of Gibran and read a centennial tribute to the author. Bushrui also reported that he plans to write a book about the people he met in the United States.

In Lebanon, Professor Bushrui is a leading translator of English works into Arabic. In addition, he has served on many cultural affairs committees and is the author of several volumes of poetry, books about noted British poets and a book on Khalil Gibran. Two years ago, he served on the Nobel Prize nominating committee.

"But," he says, "take all the honour away and give me one title — poet — then I'm satisfied." (USIS)

## ALIA helps to change Arab image

By Carrie Nelle Thompson  
Star Geneva correspondent

FOR DECADES Americans have been accustomed to flying Pan Am, TWA, Swiss Air, Air France, Delta, British Airways and numerous other carriers to Europe and other exotic places. But in the last few years attention has come to focus on an "Upstart" airline which has quickly been cultivating loyal American travellers who approach it now before trying to reserve a seat on another carrier. The airline of course, is ALIA, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and Vice President and General Manager, North America for Alia, Mr. Ahmed Sabbagh says Alia is an image — maker for Jordan and ultimately for all the Arab world.

ALIA was established in the US in 1977 with one flight per week. Soon it grew to two flights and now operates daily out of New York, twice to Amman via Amsterdams and five times by way of Vienna. On 2 March 1984, ALIA will make its maiden flight from Vienna to Los Angeles, with its first return flight the next day. And as there is large market demand for a Houston flight, ALIA plans to initiate one "in 1984 or 1985".

Officials at ALIA are well aware of the present-day swing to religious fundamentalism in the US and, under the guidance of Andrew C. Thomas, Director of Passenger Sales in North America, broad appeal is being made to those people who are likely to be eager to visit The Holy Land.

Thomas feels it is his position to inform the American public that Jordan is the gateway to the Holy Land and that ALIA offers an efficient and inexpensive way to achieve the dream of going. Traditionally Americans have thought of Israel as being the "be all and end all" of Biblical locations, with most never realizing the wonders that abound throughout the Fertile Crescent, and especially the wealth of sites to be visited in Jordan.

By appealing to traditional conservatives as the Southern Baptists and the ultra-rightists such as Bob Jones and Jerry Falwell (both major leaders in the back-to-the Bible movement in the US) Thomas has been able to reach a public that perhaps has the most stereotyped picture of the Arabs of any single group in the US.

Thomas feels quite confident that once these latter day pilgrims visit the Middle East they undergo an almost immediate transformation: as they realize that the vast majority of Arabs do not fit into the "oil rich sheikh" or "greasy terrorist" syndrome. Thomas adds with a proud smile, "and Americans are proud that Queen Noor comes from their homeland."

In addition to reaching ministers, Thomas is making a concerted effort to ensure that American travel agents are aware of the glories to be found in Jordan. There have been tours organized exclusively for these agents and for newspaper travel editors.

Sabbagh notes that these efforts, combined with all phases of continually upgrading ALIA services, have proved to be profitable both in the financial and cultural sense.

One such service that has proved particularly popular is the "Ya Hala" programme introduced in 1982. Flight attendants dressed in native Jordanian dress serve Arabic coffee from brass pots to business and first class passengers. Additionally they often go to the other sections of the planes to attend to the needs of the elderly or to entertain children.

Another ALIA extra that is well known in Jordan but is only now becoming so outside is the folkloric troupe, composed of non-professional dancers from ALIA. They have appeared recently at the Palais Des Nations in Geneva and at one of New York's major hotels, the Waldorf Astoria, thus going one step further in presenting the Arab World to the Americans.



## Four hands in perfect time

USSEMS the existence of a good cultural centre continues to open new possibilities for Jordan's cultural life this week the British Council will be offering us a rather first-ever — two grand pianos in concert.

The two pianists, Richard Markham and David Nettle formed their duo in 1978 at a time when piano duo was becoming popular again after a 60 years break.

David Nettle undertakes most of the research which goes into programme planning and is particularly interested in "rediscovering" neglected or unfamiliar works. The duo are now developing a reputation for the range and interest of their repertoire. Their programme at the Royal Cultural Centre will include works by Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven and Chopin.

Since they began working together, the two young pianists have performed with several major orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. They have also travelled extensively, giving concerts, radio and television performances in Europe, South East Asia and the Middle East.

The Markham-Nettle Piano Duo will perform at the Royal Cultural Centre on Sunday, 11 December at 8 pm. Tickets are JD 3 for adults and JD 2 for children. The proceeds will go to the Al-Husseini Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

## Orchestrating a fury

The New York Philharmonic Orchestra rather endearing way of expressing feeling about the man standing on the podium and waving a baton at it.

If the players dislike a particular conductor they will manage to signal the fact, sometimes with brutal lack of discretion. A Manhattan cab driver gesturing at a New York Times reporter during this summer's Horizon '83 Festival, for example, snubbed a guest conductor by chatting ostentatiously, first to his neighbour and then to the player.

When Rafael Kubelick led the first of the season in September, the New York Phil played with a supercilious arrogance that was widely noted. Critic Howard Rosenberg of the New York Times said this orchestra has a positively virtuous talent for making its boredom felt.

It seems that the players were really angry, an important, serious message.

## Choreographer inspires a dancer

By Vanessa Batrouai  
Special to the Star

WHEN Luciana Savignano wowed audiences last week with her interpretation of Swan Lake and Ravel's Bolero, her charisma and sensitive in depth handling of the solos roles must in part be attributed to Maurice Bejart, master of choreography with whom she worked for five years as guest artist in his Ballet of the Twentieth Century.

Bejart, a Belgian and son of a noted philosopher, has always been a controversial figure in the world of dance. Although he worked internationally in Paris and the United States, his work was not always well received and so it was in Belgium that he established his Ballet of the Twentieth Century in the early 60's.

His major productions, Nijinsky, The Rite of Spring and Messe Pour Le Temps Present stunned audiences with their powerful images and adventurous interpretations.

In the 1970's drawn towards Eastern spiritualism Bejart became a Muslim and his enticement with the east was reflected in his work. He set a ballet "Bunkli" to Indian music and another to the music of Om Kalthum.

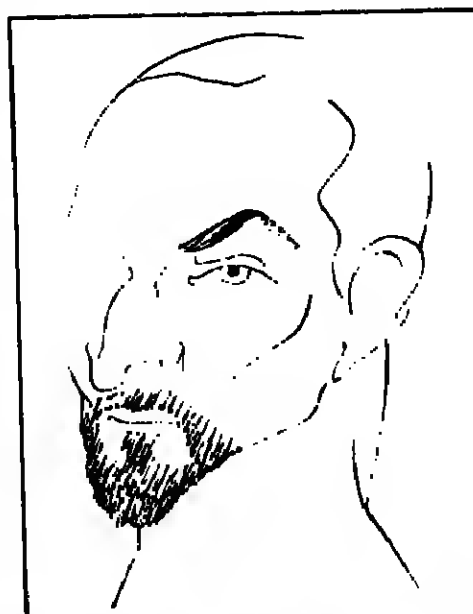
Ravel's Bolero was not his first exposure to a Middle Eastern audience as during the hey days of Lebanon his company performed three times at the Bualbek Festival.

Luciana trained at the La Scala School which admits untrained students at the age of ten and shapes them into the classical mould derived from the Ballet Russe. Passing into the company at the age of eighteen she then worked with many choreographers as La Scala operates always with guest choreographers such as Nureyev, Pistoni, Balanchine and Louis Falca.

With such a system the La Scala company have never been able to form any artistic policy or identifying style other than being adaptable to visiting dance masters. Not till Luciana worked with Bejart did she become aware of the implications of total theatre and what that meant to a dancer. Bejart, always seeking a new language, breaks the chains of classical dance with its rigid sequences and dance steps and plunges his dancers, the danced and the audience into a new and enriching experience.

He understands the artist and the dance, Luciana says, more than any other choreographer and brings out the best a dancer can give. A forceful personality himself, he has to be attracted to his ballerina who must have strength of character as well as sensitivity to ensure a productive repartee. He stirs the soul and adds to the performance that extra magical ingredient that elevates any presentation above the average. Through his help, Luciana and many other dancers have extended their dramatic vocabulary.

Bejart's ballets are always dramatic and absorbing, conceiving his pieces as he does as a whole. Sets are as telling of the action as are the dance steps and groupings. The ateam sensuality of "Bolero" is



Maurice Bejart by Germain Casado

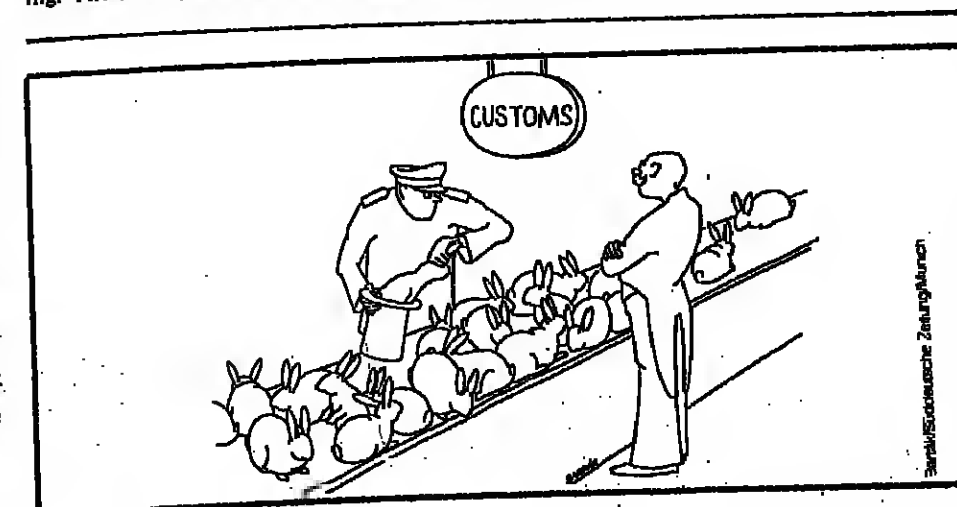


Luciana Savignano

evoked by reinforcing the repetitive rhythmic pattern of the music with repeated physical gestures and incessant bending of the feet.

The oversized set jars the accepted visual norm and prepares us for a dreamlike state of distorted reality. Group reaction, unison gesturing, appealing to animal instincts and baring orotic layers, submerge individually and the male dancers are lured into the female arena as she mesmerises them with tribal trance including movements.

Luciana who returned to the La Scala company, thus completing the arc of artistic development she believes every artist must tread, maintains that in Bejart's approach lies the future of dance and hopes that Italian companies who are trying to go that way will proceed further.



(London Express Service)

## We are facing a void, says professor

By Fadia Faqir

Special to the Star

"CULTURALLY speaking, the Arabs are facing the void. The vacuum is there, and if you read the books that have been published in Arabic during the last 10 or 15 years, you will probably find only one or two per cent worth reading, the others are not worth the paper and the ink. We are in a vacuum, not facing it."

The speaker is Professor Nicola Ziadah, professor at Saint Joseph University in Beirut.

Professor Ziadah is well qualified to speak, as he is one of the Arab world's best known cultural historians and he has devoted most of his life to the study and teaching of history.

Professor Ziadah, was born in Palestine in 1907 and trained as a teacher in Jerusalem.

He says "my first experience of teaching was in a village school. It was in the sub-district of 'Akka' in northern Palestine. We had six classes but three rooms only, so we had two classes in each room, and there was no room for the headmaster or the teachers, so the headmaster had a table in one of the larger rooms and he managed the administration of the school either before we began school or shortly after we left. One of the rooms had no glass panes at all and when it rained we had to close the shutters and it was practically dark inside."

Professor Ziadah went on to study ancient history at the University of London then returned to Palestine and taught history for eight years at the Arab College and the Rashidiyah College in Jerusalem.

In 1947, he went again to the university of London and began working on his Ph.D which was about the administration of Syria under the early Mamluks (1250-1400).

During his stay in England the mandate came to an end and Professor Ziadah found himself stateless, homeless and jobless. Later, he moved to Beirut and taught at the American University of the Lebanon and finally at Saint Joseph.

Professor Ziadah says "I think it is true that Arab history all throughout the long centuries, had its political uprisings here and there, rebellions, revolutions and so on but out of all that a culture was produced."

"Do you want to call it Arab culture because its language was Arabic? Do you want to call it Islamic culture because the driving force behind it was Islam. Do you want to call it Arab-Islamic culture for a compromise? I won't disagree. I am ready to accept any terminology."

"The main thing is that there is a culture which was enormous. It was very dynamic at the beginning. It was universal in the sense that it didn't restrict itself to limited areas or specializations. It was also universal in the sense that it dealt with Islamic sciences as well as with other sciences, philosophies, mathematics."

"We have achieved quite a lot. The achievements that we had compared favourably with those of the modern world. There is no doubt that many of the achievements of the Arabs were actually foundations, at least, of theories that later on developed, and the Arab culture was a driving force for Europeans between the 11th and 14th century."

"The problem," he continues, "is that this Arab culture which was so dynamic, vivid and active at one time came to a stand still because the authorities, both political and religious, circumvented that dynamic spirit and the net result was that Ibn-Rushd was forgotten but other books which were not as valuable came to be the standard thing and from at least 1300 to 1800 there was no active Muslim or Arab-Muslim thinking."

In the Eighteenth century, with the beginning of the European impact the Muslim communities began to feel the need to defend themselves. They failed economically, militarily and culturally and they went into hiding. But then in the nineteenth century the impact of the West was very strong and the Muslims were feeling the impact. They tried to react to it. In fact I don't want to call it reaction, I want to call it challenge and response. The response of the nineteenth century was very good, but then again, there were the two world wars. Then, more important than that, our part of the world is situated on the routes of the world so every ideology, every idea, every form of political thinking comes to us, and we are at a loss. If my generation was not at loss, I am afraid this generation is," Prof. Ziadah says.

He continues "I think that we have been playing with two different ideas, that we either go back to the sources and only the sources, or take what comes from outside and only that. Neither is a medication for our ailments. What we need is a course in between, and I think there is a tendency towards that, but it will be sometime before we settle down to what we need and know what we need," he adds.



# My friend Mr Easy

Ahmad Al-Anani  
Special to the Star

HE WAS an old hand. We worked together for a considerable time as tough dutiful and perseverant teachers in Hebron.

We made a lot of clamour, complaining of our difficult time with copy-books, stalemated life and the same stagnant talk repeated year in and year out. But first, let me tell you how I met Mr. Easy.

He had graduated shortly before me, and, against his will, was given a teaching post in Hebron. He took up office and, he seemed to be a very happy man. During my college vacations I seized the first opportunity to visit him. My whole conversation was about the great privilege of becoming a schoolmaster. Being still young and enthusiastic, I enumerated the whole dull list of the advantages of becoming a teacher. But Mr. Easy did not look as though he liked what I was saying.

This made me quite disillusioned. What could have happened to Mr. Easy who always swore he would produce in Hebron a generation completely different from all who preceded it.

He had always bitterly criticized the failure of the older generation to create the kind of educational results he thought of as vital for the future of the country. He still held firm to his ideals: but he confessed that now his conception of how to implement them had changed radically.

When I asked him to explain, Mr. Easy asked the school usher, Abu-Hassan to call the pupil Zaki Minbarak Masour and very shortly the boy appeared before us.

He was really strange to all respects. My first impression of him was that he ought to have been anywhere except in a school. He was exceptionally tall for his age. He stood pale and looked rather distracted and miserable.

Mr. Easy shouted at him, Zaki! won't you count for our guests, starting

from seventeen and going up to fifty-three. The boy started, but not with the figure seventeen, with twenty-three, "twenty-three", he said sluggishly as if he was about to faint. He then went on to say, "forty... forty... olae, eighty-eight; ooe... thirteen... zero... hundred..." Finally we stopped taking notice of him and Mr. Easy, who had a good sense as a story-teller went on with one of his wonderful tales. When he finished I was amazed to see the foolish Zaki still reciting his numbers. Mr. Easy however looked at him megalomaniacally and sent him away.

"This is quite a different aspect of pedagogy from whatever sample you have had in mind," he said and then continued with a bitter smile, "can you please suggest to me a way of approaching this boy in order to make him appreciate that to count from seven to ten means to start with seven and conclude with ten." If teaching involves a lot of such impossible cases, I thought no disillusionment with a job shall be bigger than mine. "How many similar cases have you got here in this school?" I asked. I was relieved to hear there was only one similar.

Seeing that I was rather distressed, Mr. Easy smiled and said, "look here young man. You must realize that there is nothing to life that can offer us wholesome enjoyment if it is absolutely lacking in painful experiences. I have been waiting impatiently for your graduation," he said. My young friend, we have no other way but to fight our battle most sincerely. Our people are threatened and enlightened enough to be able to fight the awful conspiracy against us.

In time, had health forced me to leave Hebron for Amman. But to this day I lose the slightest urge to take pride in anything I've ever achieved when I remember Mr. Easy. He is now in his eighties and still struggling in Hebron, bearing the torch I had to drop.



Boys, some of them under 10 years old, make jerricans in a workshop in Daski.

## Slaves today: more than ever before?

THE WORLD'S largest democracy and the world's richest democracy have failed in their attempt to do away with one of the few world groups dealing with modern slavery.

Last September, India and the United States persuaded a UN body little known outside the bureaucracy of the United Nations to abolish the specialist "Working Group on Slavery". The "Committee for Programme and Co-ordination" accepted the proposal and forwarded it for assent to the more powerful, but almost equally obscure, Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.

In November, due mainly to pressure from Australia and Britain, the Fifth Committee rejected the proposal. The Working Group on Slavery was saved, for the time being.

"There are more slaves in the world to-

day than there were in the days of Wilberforce and (US anti-slavery President) Abraham Lincoln", according to Jeremy Swift, chairman of the London-based Anti-Slavery Society. Society director Peter Davies, who estimates there are 100 million slaves in the world today, said of the attempt to disband the UN Group: "It would have been a terrible thing for human rights if this platform had been lost."

This year the Group, which meets every summer in Geneva, considered such topics as female circumcision, Iran's use of young boys in its war with Iraq and the exploitation of the children of Turkish immigrants in Berlin.

India and the US said they wanted the Working Group disbanded because it has outlived its purpose. But both democracies recently have been embarrassed by the Group.

### Bonded labour

Last August the Working Group was informed that "bonded labour" had been used to build facilities for the ASIAD athletic games in Delhi, work completed in time for Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birthday.

A bonded labourer is a person so poor that the only "mortgageable" asset he possesses is his strength. Usually little more than a slave, he is put to work on a piece of land or in a mine, and he is bound to the land or mine by a contract which greatly favours the employer. Such labourers can spend a life of hell never quite paying off a small debt. The UN has defined this system as "debt bondage", and it has become an internationally recognised form of modern slavery.

This year the Anti-Slavery Society invited India's foremost fighter against debt bondage to join its delegation to report to the UN slavery group in Geneva. Swami Agnivesh, religious leader and member of the Indian state legislature, estimates that there are at least five million bonded labourers in India alone.

### Children

The UN Working Group on Slavery also heard reports last August that between 400,000 and one million children, mostly migrants, are working illegally in US agriculture.

US law forbids children under 12 to work on farms not owned by their families, but a two-year investigation found children working on potato fields in New York State and employed in harvests in the Midwest and in California. They also work in New York City sweatshops, hotels and fast food shops.

The Group has also heard Society reports of human rights abuses in the "backyard" of the Caribbean. According to the Society, each year many as 19,000 Haitians are affected "sold" in a government-to-government deal to the Dominican Republic to cut sugarcane. They are kept under armed guard during the harvest.

## Is Jordan ready for its own Ralph Nader?

By Najwa Kefay  
Special to the Star

WOULD Sana Iman, editor of the Jordanian consumer magazine Al-Mustahlek, (The Consumer) become the Ralph Nader of the Middle East? May be, as she is already playing an active role in promoting awareness among Jordanian consumers.

Sana says consumer protection means safeguarding the buying public from dangerous or inferior goods and services or unfair trading practices.

She says that in advanced industrialized economies this is usually the responsibility of government, but in newly industrializing economies, "relationships between producer and consumer generally operate on the 'let the buyer beware' principle. This requires that the buyer knows what he wants, has the knowledge to choose wisely and has contact with the producer."

But maybe the consumer doesn't have the knowledge to judge properly and this is the role of a magazine such as Al-Mustahlek.

Sana says the major areas of concern are the quality and safety of products, including impurity and toxicity in certain foods, unsatisfactory or faulty packaging, inaccurate labelling of contents, unfair pricing and misleading advertising.

Consumer protection against all of these problems can be through government protection or, as in the case of Sana Iman and Al-Mustahlek through private initiative.

Sana was not always concerned with this subject. Her university education was in business administration, but she was always interested in journalism. Encouraged by her dentist father, who gave her two rooms in his office, she began publishing a guidebook, in English, to industrial and commercial companies. The 150 page booklet, which was produced on behalf of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, was financed solely from advertising, and was distributed throughout Europe and the Arab world.

The following year she published an updated version in English and Arabic.

During this time Sana made several trips to Europe and developed an interest in the question of consumer protection. She decided to establish her own service for Arab consumers.

### Advice

She started by examining various products on the market and drawing attention to their faults but she quickly found that neither companies nor consumer liked this approach.

Now, she concentrates on

receiving particular complaints from consumers about the prices, guarantees etc. of products and publishing these in her magazine. She also tries to encourage consumers to support local industry. If consumers buy locally-made goods, says Sana, they increase the national income and leads to lower prices so everyone involved benefits.

Sana also uses the magazine as a means to educate housewives on efficient shopping methods so that they get better value for their money and can make the most of a limited income. Simple procedures such as checking the cash register docket the shopper from a careless or dishonest shopkeeper. For example she advises on how to judge the quality of the tin, to check the date etc. Unlike tin, European and American counterparts, Sana does not test and recommend particular brands as she has found that Jordanian consumers really do not want this sort of advice.

Now that Sana has moved into the consumer protection field she is determined to carry on with it. She is dedicated to her work and hopes that Jordanian consumers will gradually come to realize the importance of this subject. And, she says, she will continue with her work even if she gets married and has a family.

## Chef's Corner

## Melanzane alla parmigiana

### Ingredients

• 3 medium-sized aubergines  
• 3 medium-sized fresh tomatoes  
• 1 finely-sliced cloves garlic  
• 1 finely-sliced medium onion  
• pinch of basil  
• pinch of parsley  
• olive oil  
• grated Parmesan cheese

### Method

- Cut the aubergines into slices
- Coat both sides of each slice with flour and panify in olive oil until golden
- Remove slices from pan and lay out on kitchen role or other absorbent paper to dry
- Now prepare the tomato sauce:
- Peel the tomatoes and crush
- Place tomatoes in a casserole, along with three tablespoons of olive oil, garlic, onion, basil and parsley
- Let the sauce simmer for about 15 minutes, stirring occasionally
- Salt to taste
- In a shallow ovenproof dish, place a layer of sliced aubergines
- Cover with tomato sauce and a sprinkling of Parmesan cheese
- Repeat until layers reach the top of the dish and finish off with a generous sprinkling of Parmesan cheese
- Place the dish in a medium pre-heated oven and bake for about 10 minutes
- Serve hot from the oven



## Learning languages

THERE ARE discussions, conferences, panels and pronouncements from learned authorities at regular intervals calling for increased or improved programmes for teaching languages. And they do have a justifiable point as opposed to those who reason that it is unnecessary for English-speaking peoples to struggle to gain expertise in another linguistic field when it seems that the rest of the world is working so diligently to learn their tongue.

Europeans have somehow resolved this problem. The majority of them can carry on quite well in several languages and it seems a source of pride to them to add another to their repertory.

The rest of us haven't arrived at this point. In America, a place once rigidly uni-lingual in all forms of public life with only small pockets of those who spoke a different language because they had isolated themselves and not been stirred into the great melting pot of society, things are changing. It used to be that only students who were preparing for university were forced to study at least one other language to fulfill the institution's academic requirements. Yet those efforts seldom produced the someone who could actually speak the language he had studied. And after the student revolution of the sixties language studies became optional.

Now there is the phenomenon of bi-lingual signs on streets, labels on tins and bottles in the supermarkets, and other instances that touch the daily lives of everyone. The languages used are English and Spanish. Spanish has even been included in some elementary school curricula which is a step forward to some, several steps backward to others, and an act of discrimination to the sensitive.

No matter who we are or where we are, we need to speak to those around us. With increased mobility in every level of economic strata, many people find themselves suddenly thrust into an alien environment where another tongue is spoken. It must be of great comfort to see street signs and other aids to getting on with living that they can understand.

Those who protest this step argue that immigrants will never use English if they find that they can manage their lives while still speaking their mother tongue.

And by selecting Spanish as a second language to have attention focused on it implies that other well-represented ethnic groups like the Japanese, Chinese and more recent movements of people from South Asia are being neglected although there are substantial numbers of them there.

And this is a form of discrimination, the bane of the truly democratic society.

Here in Jordan we go through waves of concern ranging from feelings that children should have the levels of their English and French lessons improved to worries that Arabic is not being taught correctly and the teachers aren't well enough qualified, to periodic suggestions that the proliferation of English signs over shops should be banned.

Wherever we are, the thing to do is not to shut out the diversification of fields of knowledge, especially languages, to the exclusion of all but our own. This only succeeds in putting verbal "blindness" on us. No, each of us must study our own native tongue, whatever that is, until we become truly fluent in it, can see all the nuances, the beauty of it.

This point can only be reached by knowing the basics thoroughly — grammar, spelling, to be able to write it legibly so others can understand — and the other mechanical functions of the language. Then to go on to literature and see and know the language in its finer forms.

Then we can go on to learn other language and enjoy the expanded awareness that this affords. The Arabs have a saying "when a person learns another language he gains another soul."

## Would you believe it?

AN INDIAN has been sent to prison for eight years in the United Arab Emirates, six years after his trial on a murder charge began.

The man, however, will only have to serve two years of his eight year sentence. Ajman's Sharia court was told that the man had spent the past six years in police custody.

The court was told the delay was caused by efforts to discover whether the murder victim's family was willing to drop the murder charge.

A MAN who sprayed air freshener over a woman smoking in a train was fined \$270 by a court in Melbourne, Australia.

Seles manegar Gevin Murray, 32, pleaded not guilty to offensive behaviour and said the woman had lit up a foul-smelling cigar. The woman told the court it was a cigarette and said the freshener had made her feel sick.

## The dreamer's paralysis

By Riad H. Dabbas  
Special to the Star

WE LEAP tall buildings in a single bound, we cringe in abject fear as a monster from outer space stalks us, we embrace a lover while hanging gliding over a Pacific atoll — all without moving a single muscle. Shortly thereafter we awaken, feeling refreshed and energized.

It is well known that the brain is never "asleep" and that most of the brain's 100 billion neurons are as active when we dream as when we are awake. Clearly this must be so, for the mental formulations of our dream processes are fully as elaborate as any that take place during wakefulness. So why don't we move our muscles when we dream?

The specialized areas of the brain that initiate muscular movements are active during our dreams. Hence either the messages they send fail to reach the motoneurons that normally cause muscles to contract, or the messages are received but something happens to prevent the motoneurons from reacting.

A fascinating experiment that brings information to bear on these two alternatives was recently performed by Adrian Morrison, a neurobiologist at the University of Pennsylvania, based on earlier discoveries by Michel Jourvet in Lyons, France.

The researchers made a lesion in a very small area in the brainstem of a cat, when these animals are awake, they appear to be relatively normal. But something strange occurs during REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, the phase of sleep that correlates with intense dreaming in humans. As soon as the animals enter the

REM phase they raise their heads, move about, strike out at imaginary objects, and perform a variety of classic waking behaviours—all while still asleep.

These complex behaviours can occur because in these animals the motor areas of the brain remain fully active during REM sleep. So do the sensory areas, those involved with hearing, speech, sight, and smell, and the integrative regions, those involved in complicated functions like memory and creativity. The small brainstem lesion evidently disrupts the mechanisms that normally prevent enactment of dream behaviour.

### Prevention

This experiment reveals that behavioural messages from the brain are indeed formulated and sent during REM sleep but that, normally the motoneurons do not respond, what, then, prevent the motoneurons from activating muscles?

Michael H. Chase and Francisco Morales — both professor's of physiology at the University of California, School of Medicine, have begun an in-depth study of the motoneurons. They use a glass tube with a tip so small that it can be inserted directly into a single neuron, and fill it with a chemical that conducts electricity so that they can measure the electrical activity inside the cell.

With this technique they are able to distinguish between the two fundamental processes that can reduce the reactivity of motoneurons: disfacilitation, a condition in which the motoneurons become quiescent when input that excites them is withdrawn, and inhibition, a condition in which the motoneurons are silenced by the onslaught of input that actively inhibits them.

They have found that during REM sleep, the second condition occurs: mo-



toneurons are subjected to barrages of an inhibiting chemical that prevents them from responding to excitatory messages. Disruption of this inhibition (which occurs there is a brainstem lesion, for example) permits animals to move during REM sleep much as they do when they are awake. But after just a few minutes, they awaken, no doubt wondering where they are and what they have been doing.

The knowledge that a brain chemical exists that quiets motoneurons is a major clue in understanding disorders that may involve the abnormal firing of the paralytic mechanism—for example during sleep apnea (the cessation of breathing during sleep) and narcolepsy (paralytic attacks during wakefulness). Besides, inhibition may serve to maintain inactivity while accommodating the need for recurrent cycles of cerebral activation during sleep.



## people

### Fickle fashion

WE'VE ALWAYS known that Jordan's history extended back to the dawn of time, and that this was an area where civilisation had its beginnings. But a recent dedication of mine has shown that, unbeknownst to most people, Jordanians today are still believing exactly as they did 2,000 years ago.

The evidence for this is at the same time very simple and very compelling: it is the overwhelming popularity of anything "Italian". Jordanians today will go for anything that has that adjective attached, be it shoes, furniture, clothing or cars. Our local shoe manufacturers, for instance, come out mostly with some rather pedestrian designs (I think that's a good one, don't you?), yet by advertising them as Italian styles they feel justified in doubling or trebling the price.

We were doing the same thing more than two millennia ago. The design characteristics of the cities of Jordan, the artistic styles and the fashions were imported directly and shamelessly initiated from Italian cities (one of which was Rome). In those days, the imitative urge was so bad that people even spoke Italian as it was known at that time (though they called it Latin). The archaeological evidence for all of this is compelling.

It is difficult to understand what accounts for this desire for foreign things. Back in the days of the first wave of Latinism, Jordanian culture was doing fine with its own blend of Persian, Greek and native styles. But popular dissatisfaction with that fashion trend eventually became so great that all of the area for some reason decided to get itself conquered by Roman generals, including strangely named ones like Pompey, and all eyes looked to Rome. Great changes, all for the sake of a silly fad.

But, as we all know, fashion is fickle; and as the seat of vogue moved from Rome to Constantinople, and time wore on, our hearts were captured once more — this time by the Sheikhs of Arabia. The wheel has now come full circle, however, and we are back in the hands of Rome — stylistically if not politically. On the horizon loom new conquerors — in furniture, the Scandinavians (making up for the Vikings' failure to have subdued the eastern Mediterranean during their heyday); in clothing, the Americans and their all-pervasive jeans; in cars, of course the Japanese and Germans.

In all of this, I never lose heart. For, given the undeniable cyclical nature of design trends, it is inevitable that one day, perhaps soon, the world will be clamouring for Jordanian styles. But by then, whose clothes will we be wearing here?

## Children on parade

Forty boys and girls were in the spotlight at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel last Thursday. They were modelling the latest fashions in a show sponsored by the Alumni Club of Beirut University College.

Mrs. Florette Eid, a member of the club's co-ordinating committee, told the Star that the main objectives of the club are to participate actively in the literary and cultural life of Jordan, to aid the youth of Jordan in their efforts to gain a higher education and to contribute to the promotion of Jordanian craftsmanship.

Thursday's show was the club's second fund-raising activity for the year, and followed the visit of the Leningrad State Ballet in October. Funds from the fashion show were given a healthy boost by a generous donation from its patron, Her Highness Princess Taghril.

The wives of the ambassadors of Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Iraq, Oman, Qatar and Kuwait made their contribution by offering to open the show with their daughters modelling their national costumes.

Amongst those watching the show were Mrs. Maha Daoud, Mrs. Zaina Sharabi, Mrs. Lella Halasa and Mrs. Jalal Bustami.

American Centre Director Ruby Apalar and the centre's librarians Jumana Essau and Akadi B. Menekshian were quite overwhelmed by the response to a film presentation they made last Thursday.

Most of Amman's leading librarians turned out to see the film "Libraries and the Pursuit of Happiness" and the video "Improving Reference Skills".

Dr. Han Al-Amad, director of the University of Jordan Library, Mrs. Halifa Sharayha, librarian



Hania Dukkan and small friend in style at the BUC Alumni Club fashion show.

of the Council on Arab Economic Unity, Nermeen Shugoa of the archival library at the Royal Palace, Rawaya Nabeel and Salma Mukhar of the Department of Antiquities, Ali Turki, Farouk Shneider and Muham Tayseer Darwish of the University of Jordan Library, Karam Tawfiq of the University of Jordan, Library and Queen Al-Eissa of the Central Bank Library were all there, including in shop-talk and hoping that the American Centre will offer more such programmes in future.

Farouk Mu'ath, chief librarian of the Amman Municipal Library, Dr. Abdul Bazzak Younis, assistant professor of the Library Diploma Programme at the University of Jordan and Khalid Jarrah, librarian of the Intermediate University College were so impressed that they insisted on bringing their staff and students to see the films.



Jane Manneh shows her parents.

"I'm a real greenhorn," says Mr. Peter Muller, the new economic officer at the West German embassy in Amman. But we trust that description of himself refers not to any lack of experience in his profession — simply to the fact that he has only been in Jordan for three weeks. Mr. Muller replaces Mr. Artur Bräuer, who after long years of faithful service has left the embassy in Jordan for Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Muller expresses satisfaction at his new posting — the only trouble now, it seems, is to find a suitable apartment. That task, in this seller's market, definitely does take longer than three weeks. We wish him the best of luck.

The YWCA at Third Circle has been a hive of activity for the past few weeks as the YWCA Youth Committee prepares for its annual Christmas Shopping Day on Friday 9 December.

For many people the day marks the beginning of Christmas activities and Youth Committee President Saad Khusho and Vice-President Reem Najjar have been working to keep up the standards of previous years.

With the help of committee members Suzi Ghailas, Hania Mukhar, Mouna Salim, Huda Khoury, Nabil Kalls, Yaqoub Sa'har, Mahmoud Abu Sill and Bassem Hakim and other YWCA members, they have been making Christmas stockings and other gifts and arranging for local shops to bring a wide selection of gift ideas. On Friday, Santa Claus will be there giving out sweets to the children and refreshments will be available throughout the day.

## Jordanian touch for Miss World



George Sarkis with Miss World 1983.

Addresser George Sarkis arrived home from London last night after taking part in all the excitement of the Miss World Competition. As a member of the International Miss World Elit Committee, George had the honour to play the role of 1983 Miss World, Sarah Hall, as the new Miss World.

His hairdressing skills were not neglected during the competition. George was the only addresser allowed to comb the hair of the contestants, as there were 12 of them, he must have been busy.

Lebanese Ambassador Samir and his wife Mona were among a group of Lebanese and Jordanian friends together last night at a dinner party at home.

Guests included Mr. Abu Nader and Mrs. Shalhouh, Lebanese Consul General Hussela Shalhouh and his wife Nora, Mr. Ali and his wife Widud, Mr. and Mrs. Zuhair and his wife Maha, and Mr. and Mrs. Ghazi Akl. And they were particularly delighted with the dinner which was a Lebanese feast, of course, sporting a fine Lebanese green feign.

The Royal Cultural Centre was the scene of the sounds of the Old Music Hall as the Amman

Players staged a show that was a good start to the Christmas festivities.

"Lady Author of the sketch" Jaume Masri and "Lady Producer" Kitty Ebbgrave won high praise for the show which was lively, full of humour and had the audience singing along right from the beginning.

Comedian John Alford had the audience laughing — most of the time and will surely be seen on the Amman stage again. His suit buying attempt with salesman Don Pengilly was also a great success.

Evelyn and Larry Cooper, highly individual version of "Old MacDonald had a Farm" also went very well as did John Bradley's brave attempt at "The Green Eye of the Yellow God" with interruptions generously provided by Fizz Waters and Jeff Ball.

When it came to singing it was the ladies of the cast who really started with Pat Pengilly, Pauline Waters, Mary Alford and Doreen Mathias all making a special contribution.

Not to forget, of course, Master of Ceremonies Jack Riggs and Eileen Ball who kept us up to date on who was doing what.

As usual proceeds from the show went to charity and this time the children of the "Home for the Daughters of Martyrs" will be sharing the benefits of the two resoundingly successful music hall evenings.

Alla's Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe continue to charm audiences abroad. One of their most recent successes was in New York where they entertained guests at the American University of Beirut Alumni Association of North America's annual meeting.

Alla Chairman Ali Ghannour was a guest speaker at a ceremonial dinner held during the meeting and his theme was "The Challenge of Peace in Lebanon and the Middle East."

Among those sharing the dinner during the dinner were Mr. Mohammad Baghal, executive-director of the US-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Malcolm Kerr, president of the AUB, Mr. Najeeb Halaby, Chairman of the

Board of the AUB, Dr. Cloas Makoud, the Arab League's observer at the United Nations and Mrs. Lella Sharaf in her capacity as Board Trustee. Mrs. Sharaf is a past president of the AUB club of North America.

And Alla Vice President and General Manager North America Ahmed Sabagh had some mixed luck at the dinner. He won the lottery prize of MEA tickets for a trip to Beirut — but the prize was disallowed.

Last Saturday was St. Barbara's day and many Jordanians kept up the traditions of the day by serving the special wheat pudding decorated with nuts, coconut and raisins.

Antoine and Sibam Tarraf added a Lebanese atmosphere when they hosted a St. Barbara's day party. Guests were asked to wear fancy dress or masks which is the custom in Lebanon, where children and adults usually disguise themselves in fancy dress and go from house to house. They sing or dance for the owners and receive a treat of sweets or money.

On this occasion the Tarraf's confined their celebrations to indoors but, with guests Joseph and Huda Azar, Nalla Khayyat, Joseph Samaha and Najwa and Fouad Kefay they provided a special treat for St. Barbara. They combined their St. Barbara celebrations with a surprise birthday party for Emile.



Mr. and Mrs. Emile Batrouni celebrate St. Barbara's Day and a birthday in one.



Masks for St. Barbara's Day.

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## CALENDAR

### Christmas Shopping Day

The Young Women's Christian Association Youth Committee will be holding their annual Christmas Shopping Day on Friday. A wide selection of items suitable for gifts will be on sale at reasonable prices. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Friday 9 December from 9.00 am until 9.00 pm.

The Schneller School will hold its annual bazaar from Friday 9 December until Sunday 11 December daily from 10.00 am until 6.00 pm.

### Concert

The British Council presents a recital by the piano duo Richard Markham and David Nettle in aid of the Al-Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

Sunday 11 December at 8.10 pm at the Royal Cultural Centre.

### Exhibitions

The Department of Culture and Arts presents its annual exhibition of work by Jordanian artists.

Thursday 8 December until Saturday 17 December at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The British Council presents an exhibition of ceramic art by Najwa Ziyad Annab.

Sunday 11 December until Thursday 15 December

The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel presents "Arabian and African Scenes" an exhibition of photographs by Anne-Murie Kost of the German Agency for Technical Co-operation.

Opens Sunday 11 December at 5.00 pm

The Alla Art Gallery presents "The Orientalists" an exhibition of 19th century oil paintings. Continues until Tuesday 13 December

The Orientalists will be followed on Wednesday 14 December by an exhibition of photographs by James Goldsworthy Higgs.

The Russian Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of embroidery by Zolirya Zaglan.

Continues until Saturday 10 December

### Films

The French Cultural Centre presents "Messieurs Les Ronds De Cul" a 1978 film by Daniel Ceccaldi, starring Raymond

Pellegrin, Daniel Ceccaldi, Claude Dauphin, Bernard Le Coq and J-M Thibault.

Friday 9, Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 December at 7.30 pm.

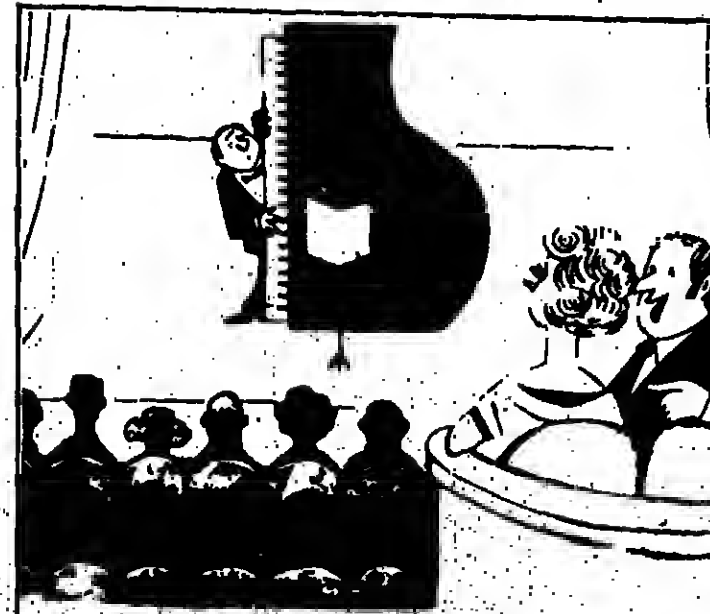
The American Centre presents "Sun Dagger" (one hour) an investigative report of the huge sundial built by the Anasazi Indians of Pueblo Bonito, New Mexico 1,000 years ago.

Sunday 11 December at 7.00 pm

### Video

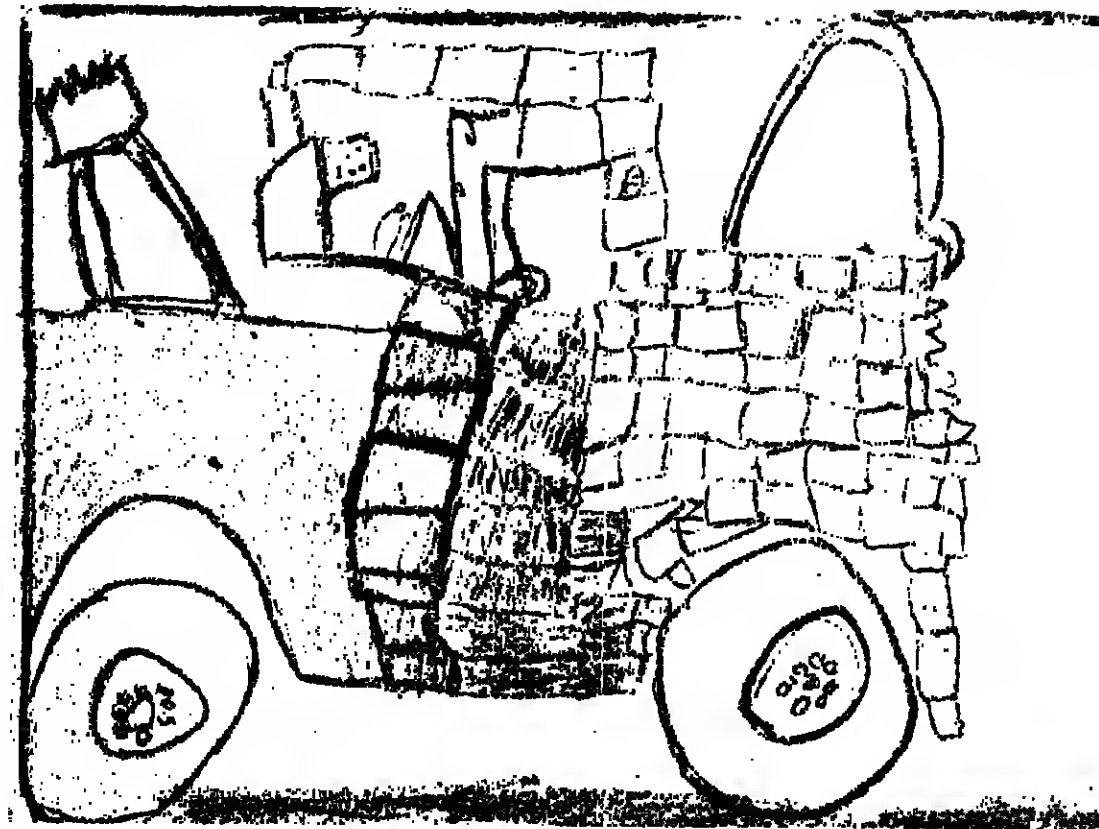
The American Centre is presenting the video series "Allstar Cooke's America", a series of 13, 52 minute videotapes narrating the history of the United States of America.

Mondays and Wednesdays at 4.00 pm and at 7.00 pm.



"He used to play the accordion."





**THE BULLDOZER:** This impressive drawing in yellow, turquoise and violet was done by Rafet Mohammad Al-Sayed. Quite a good job for a kindergartener (at the Soldiers' Family Care Centre School)!

## Eight students win prizes

AMMAN (Star) — Eight Jordanian school children have won prizes for painting and writing in the Shanker's International Children's Competition held this year. Six of them won prizes for painting. They are Rula Harb and Tania Habib of Ahliyyah School for Girls in Amman, Samira Mohd. el-Rimani of Nuzha Girls School No 2 UNRWA and Sahar Abdulhaja of Irbid Prep. School for Girls No 9 UNRWA. The rest are Farah Ibrahim Farah of Mu'ath Bin-Jabal, Irbid and Omriyah Mansour Ahmad of Dair Youssef Secondary School for Girls, Amman.

The two who won prizes for writing are Nancy Sunan and Leena Qubein both of Ahliyyah School for Girls, Amman.

Shanker's International Children's Competition is organized

every year with the main objective of creating understanding, love and affection among children of various countries. More than 150,000 entries were received for the 1983 competition from about hundred countries.

### 1984 competition

As in the previous year the 1984 is due to take place. This is open to all children below the age of 16 i.e. born or after January 1, 1968. The last date for receipt of entries directly to the Secretary, Shanker's International Children's Competition, Nehru House, 4 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi — 110 002 is December 31, 1983. There is still time. Children who are eligible may send their entries to the above address if they have not already done so.

## A scary night

John went to bed at seven p.m. While he was sleeping, he saw a very fierce man holding a knife, wearing a black coat and a black mask. The man wanted to kill him but fortunately John's mother was coming. She threw the pillow onto the man's face. The man laughed because it didn't hurt him. But for the man's bad luck, the pillow was torn and the feathers came into his eyes and his nose. The man got very angry, held the knife and, and....

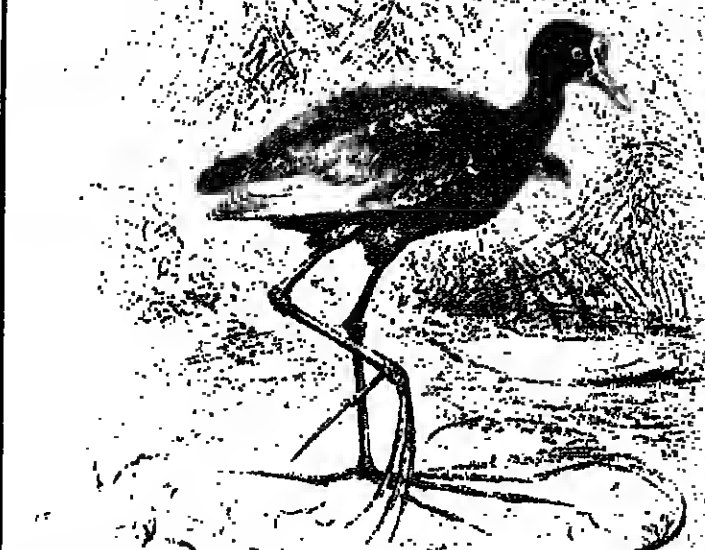
John's mother wanted him to get up and go to school because it's eight and fifteen minutes a.m., but John shouted: "Let's run away from here, the monster will kill me". His mother was very surprised to see him like this that morning. After a few seconds, she knew John was dreaming.

Yad Haleese, who is in the 5th elementary class and joins the Jordan University School, sends this story to Star Kids. Thank you for this contribution. Yad



This fisherman seems not to have caught any fish, but in reality, he caught three big fishes. Can you find these three big fishes?

## ODDITIES



A Brazilian Jacana walking on the surface of a pond, using the leaves of water lilies and other aquatic plants as stepping-stones. Sabah

## What birds can walk on the surface of the water?

THE JACANA, which is sometimes called the Water-pheasant, gets its name from Brazil; its home is in the tropics, but it may be found also in Australia. It used to be classed with the water-hens, but now the family has a name of its own, the Parridae. It has long, thin legs but the most striking thing about it is the length of its toes. These long toes make it able to move across the surface of a lake. It does not walk on the water itself, but it uses the water-lilies and aquatic plants as stepping-stone or as a kind of bridge.

The Jacana is related to the Rails. It makes its nest on the water, in a tiny island of grass, or in reeds, and there it lays its olive-green eggs. We can picture this bird as always at home in some lake, covered with large water-lilies, in India or Ceylon, Brazil or Australia.

It is easy to see in our picture how its long toes enable it to walk from lily to lily. By their means the bird can distribute its weight evenly over a wide area, just as a traveller over the snow uses huge snowshoes to spread out his weight.

## Our Fascinating EARTH

BY PHILIP SEFF, PH.D. & DAVID BAER, II

## GOLD IS ETERNAL

GOLD IS ALMOST IMPERVIOUS TO THE RAVAGES OF TIME BECAUSE AIR, WATER, AND MOST CORROSIVES DO NOT AFFECT IT. IT CAN BE MELTED DOWN OVER AND OVER AGAIN WITHOUT LOSING ANY OF ITS QUALITY.



GOLD CAN BE HAMMERED INTO SHEETS 1/250,000 TH OF AN INCH THICK! A SINGLE OUNCE OF GOLD CAN BE DRAWN INTO AN UNBROKEN WIRE 35 MILES LONG!

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 8 December, 1983

### DECEMBER — December 21st to January 19th



This should be a week when most things seem to go right all along, with a loved one being a little extra thoughtful towards you. Recent strain should now be eased, and you will find time to relax, and pursue an interesting hobby of yours. Some very pleasing financial news should come your way during this coming week, proving that all your past efforts have not been in vain.

### JANUARY — January 20th to February 18th



This would seem to be a really excellent week for personal relations and could be the right time for returning the hospitality of a close friend. You could be experiencing some slight emotional frustration during the early part of this week. Be patient, for your partner could prove to be of great assistance to you.

### FEBRUARY — February 19th to March 20th



You could find that you are able to relax more this week, after a rather busy period, although in the social field, you should be getting out and about quite a bit. Your worries regarding the health of a near one should prove groundless, and you could now go ahead with certain plans you both may have. A person of whom you are rather fond may seem to be somewhat obtuse this week.

### MARCH — March 21st to April 20th



People around you may tend to be rather irritating this week, by breaking appointments, but do not let this get you down, for it is just a phase of the moment, and will quickly pass. This would seem an excellent time for an ambition of yours to come to fruition, but it would be much wiser for you to be wary of telling others about it just for the moment.

### APRIL — April 21st to May 20th



You should find that things move along pretty satisfactorily for you during this coming week, and a decision made regarding an affair of the heart could well prove beneficial to you. You would be well advised to avoid jeopardising any plans which somebody close to you may have, by remembering to do one thing at a time, and not being too rash.

### MAY — May 21st to June 20th



This coming week appears to be a good time for making any special little requests, both at home and at business. Your evenings could prove to be rather hectic. Your finances should be taking a very definite upward trend just as you should be able to see the end of a few problems in sight. Your health may need a little attention, due to over-tiredness, so relax when at all possible.

### WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER

Birthday Greetings to You. Towards the middle of February, money matters will become more and more pleasing for you. An unexpected financial gain will make you more secure than you have been for a very long time.

An opportunity for travel is indicated for you, especially the older ones amongst you, and as a result of this journey, you may find a new and lasting prosperity from an unexpected quarter.

Family ties will strengthen after the end of March, and a personal matter which may have been giving you quite a lot of anxiety, will fade during the coming twelve months.

Where your health is concerned, this is going to be 100 per cent during the year ahead of you.

### FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER

Birthday Greetings to You. Don't allow old friends to interfere with a decision over a family problem next month. You have handled such matters very carefully before, and should always keep to your own judgment.

During the next two months, there is going to be a series of events which you think endanger your security. With your usual courage, you will be able to tackle the situation and in the long run, you will benefit in a most unexpected way.

If an opportunity to travel comes your way at the end of next month, you would be well advised to take it. There may be a very pleasant surprise at the other end of it for you.

### SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER

Birthday Greetings to You. If family problems become very pressing, you should try and hand some of the responsibility over to one of the older relatives of the family. Try not to overburden yourself this month or next, as you have a very busy time ahead of you.

The odds are that you are going to have a very prosperous year. Through the actions of someone in a very reliable and responsible position, you will gain promotion and financial success when you least expect it.

At the beginning of April, your life will be running really smoothly, and where social activities are concerned, you will have many new friends.

For the eligible ones, there is every indication of romance.

### CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

The generosity of a close friend could more than surprise and also please you during this week, so do try to avoid being stubbornly independent towards them. This is not a week for doing things on chance, so you would do well to make arrangements beforehand, and you should find that plans materialise very successfully. There is an indication of an unexpected domestic change.

### LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

A surprise visit from an old and much loved friend could do much to brighten an otherwise dull and routine week. There is an indication of a change of residence, but do try to curb your spending in this direction until all your plans are completed. A slight disagreement in the past with a close friend should now be put to rights by their efforts. Be generous and meet them half-way.

### VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

In the social field, this could be a busier week than you had anticipated, with bright romantic prospects at the weekend. A letter which you may receive from a distant place some time during this week, could require some serious thought by you, before discussing its contents. Try to give a little extra thought to a near one during this week, for this could lead to great happiness for you both.

### LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

Recent plans which you and a loved one may have, should materialise some time during this week, thus preventing a rather tricky situation at home. Financial gains and some unexpected luck could be yours this week, through the kindness of an old friend. In the social field, this should be an excellent week for making future plans, but beware of any extra expense which may be involved.

### SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

The unexpected praise from an older person around you this week, will do a great deal to heighten the respect someone of the opposite sex has for you. There are indications that future plans could be completely changed by an impending long journey, which could in the end, prove to be very advantageous to you. Take care not to become involved in an argument which does not concern you.

### SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

Friction at home, caused by the tactless remark of someone very dear to you, should be sorted out now, and there is the prospect of a very happy week ahead of you. There is the possibility of a rather unusual proposition being put to you by someone of whom you are very fond. This could set you thinking quite a bit. This may be a rather expensive week, but don't let impulsiveness get the better of your good judgment.

### Monday 12 December

Birthday Greetings to You. A lot of extra work could be yours during the next three months, but this will be more than worthwhile, for your financial situation could improve considerably.

During the first few weeks of next year, your personal life may suffer a few ups and downs, but this will straighten itself out, and after this, a very happy and contented time is indicated for you.

An opportunity which would take you on a long journey could present itself in April, but it would be inadvisable to rush into an early acceptance, as plans made previously are more likely to benefit you.

Some family problems show every sign of clearing themselves up for good.

### Tuesday 13 December

Birthday Greetings to You. During the March to April period, life is likely to become just a little bit hectic, both socially and businesswise. It would be easy, as a result, to over-tire yourself, so it is especially important that you take every opportunity that you can to rest during these few weeks.

A new venture could improve your financial position in a most unusual way and from the beginning of March, much of your spare time could be given to making plans in this respect.

Within the next three months, the action of someone in a position of authority should affect your career in a most advantageous way, resulting in a greater feeling of security.

### Wednesday 14 December

Birthday Greetings to You. The coming year holds many changes for you, both in your emotional life and also at work. You should try to be more understanding with someone who is very close to you, and who loves you dearly, and then you will be happier and calmer to do your work satisfactorily.

A chance to travel may well realise one of your secret ambitions, and if someone whom you have not seen for a long while, tries to offer you ideas on this score, you should listen to your own judgment.

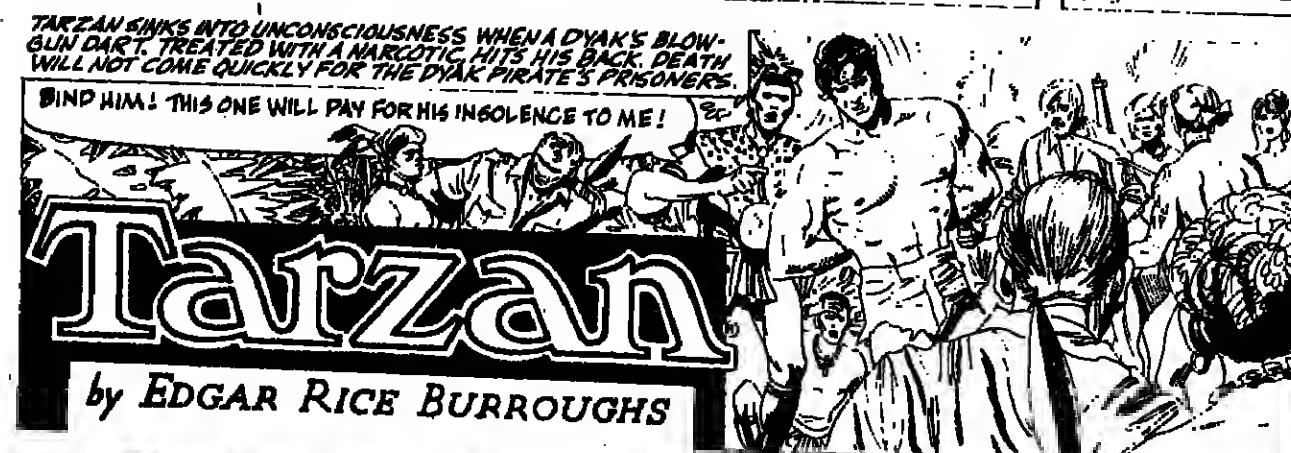
Being independent and temperamental, you may try and bottle up an emotional problem, but friends will be ready and willing to help you if you will only seek their advice.

Financially, there is a big surprise awaiting you towards the end of next month.

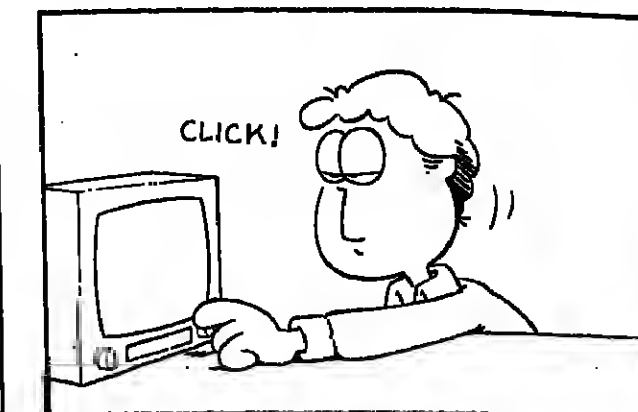
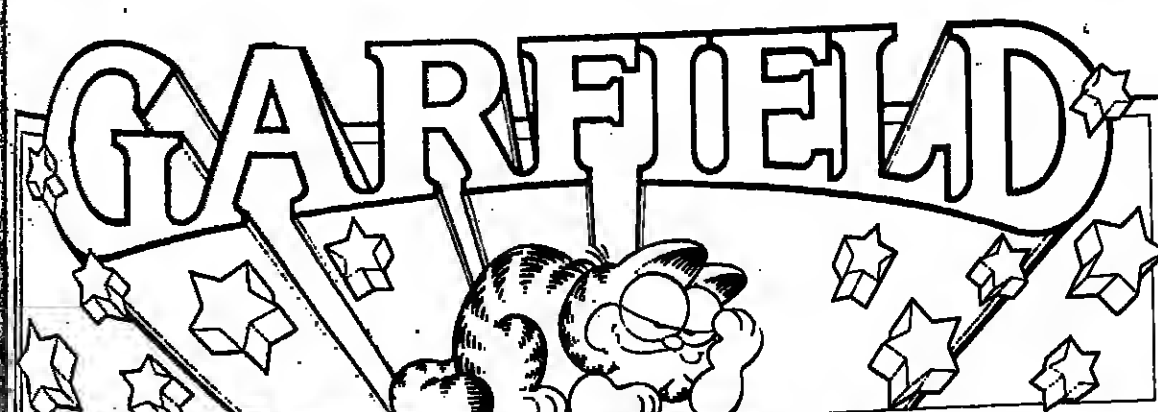
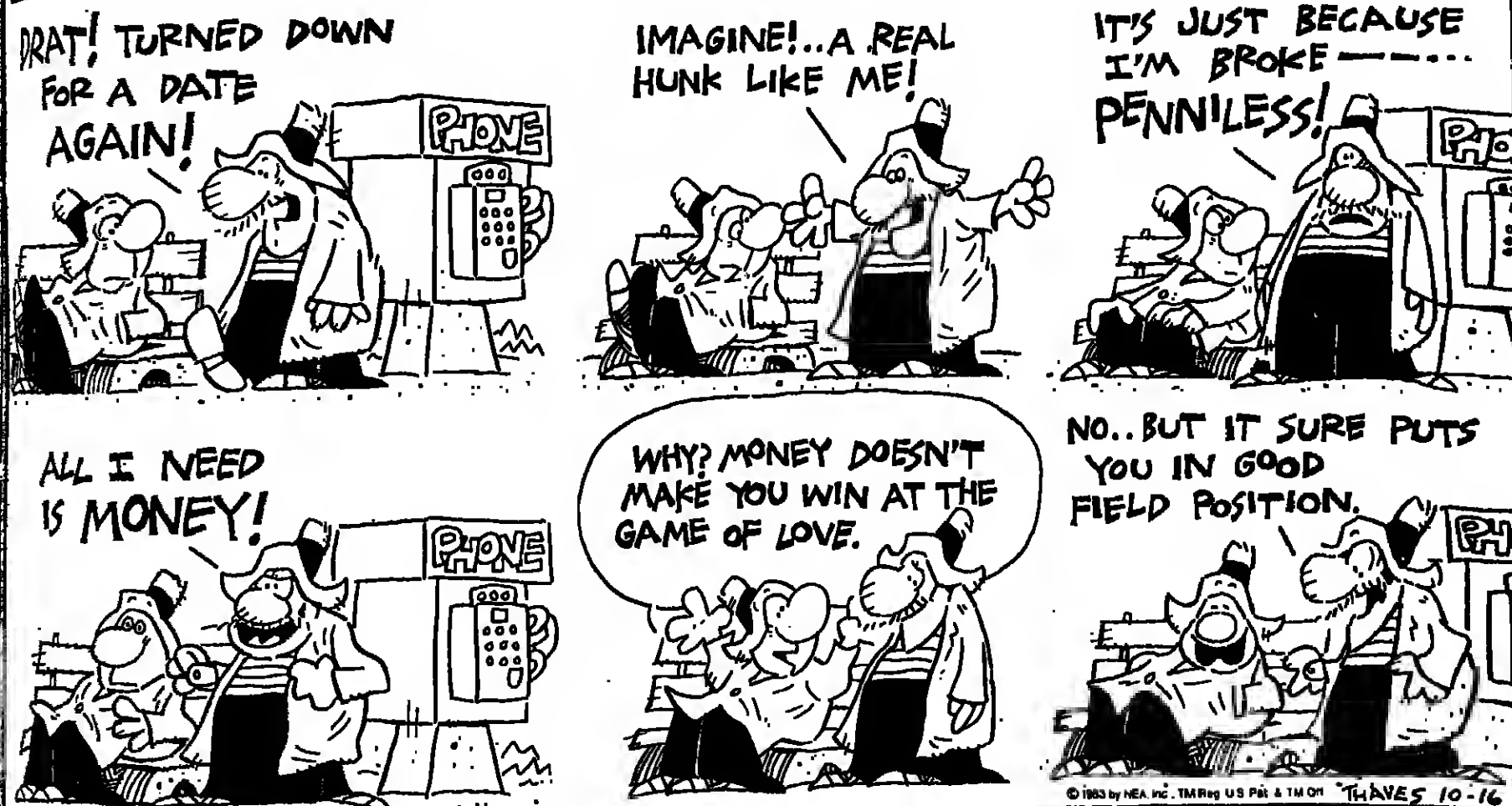


# PEANUTS

featuring  
"Good ol'  
Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ



# FRANK AND ERNEST





# entertainment

## The cinema corner

### And justice for all

SOMETHING INTERESTING has been happening in the past few weeks. A local cinema house has been showing a selection of good films, mainly American, mostly produced in the last two to three years. "On Golden Pond" was one, and I am sure that cinema fans have heard a lot about this Oscar-winning human-interest story starring the late Henry Fonda, Katherine Hepburn and Jane Fonda. If you did not see it, you have missed a good movie with a new style and problem to offer.

Another great movie in my opinion is "Justice for All", which is showing now in Amman. A 1981 production, the film is beautifully directed, played and presented. It is a challenging work and it holds the viewer until the end. And what an ending does Al Pacino has to give us.

The story is about a young rebellious lawyer, who defends people whom the society does not sympathise with, homosexuals, drug addicts and others, but who want another chance in life a clean life. Al Pacino is a man who understands law and yet he is human too. To him there are always ways to go around the system without really harming anyone.

He is surrounded by other lawyers who are in business for money and better positions. Deals are made in the hallways with other lawyers and public attorneys, magistrates and judges are either corrupt or frustrated with the system. The system itself is without a soul. It is a machine that eats everyone that goes inside, even its own designers and controllers.

Al Pacino is challenged by an unexpected incident. He is framed, literally blackmailed, into defending a judge who is charged with raping and beating a young woman. What adds to his problem is that he receives solid proof that the judge, who is aiming to run for a political office,



is guilty. What should a lawyer do in this case? Do his job and defend a man who is guilty, or defend the society and save it from men like the judge.

The situation gets more complicated as the emotional stress increases on Al Pacino when he finds one of his clients sentenced to ten years in prison because of a technical mistake that was not cleared up before.

On the day of the trial the unexpected happens. Al Pacino destroys the judge by exposing instead of defending him. In the process he destroys his own career because he wanted true justice for all. "This court is out of order, you are out of order... this system is out of order," he says as he is taken outside the courtroom by the police. Al Pacino has just concluded his opening statement!

Osama El-Sherif

### HOLIDAY INN HOTEL.

Ambassador Suite - (9-2 a.m.)  
Dinner, Dancing and Show  
"Images" Show band  
Duke Bar - 11:00 - 12:30  
"CHANTILLY TRIO"

### AMMAN MARRIOTT HOTEL

Al Rabaha Nightclub - (8:30 - 1:00)  
Dinner, Dancing and Show.  
Kontakt - All styles of music  
Al Watina Restaurant (7:30 - 11:30)  
Kon Moto - classical music  
Indian Food Festival

### JORDAN INTERCONTINENTAL

Al Pasha Disco - (9-3 a.m.)  
Saturday (6-8) Under 18 only.  
Barbecue Nightly with live music (6:30 - 10:30)

### AMMAN CROWN HOTEL

Al Khayma Disco - (9-2 a.m.)  
Poolside - Thursday & Saturday (8:30 - morning)  
Friday - Buffet

### AMRA HOTEL

Shahrazad Disco - (9-3 a.m.)  
Couples only closed Mondays

### REGENCY PALACE HOTEL

Al Alali nightclub - (9-2 a.m.)  
Dinner, Dancing and show.  
Sequence Band

### LA CESAR NIGHTCLUB

Jebel Lweibdeh  
Dinner Dance Every Night  
Oriental Dancing  
Open for Lunch 9:00 - 3:00 pm

## SOLUTIONS

### Chess

1 K-K4 2 B-K4 3 Q-QB4  
R-B4 ch; 4 K-Q2, R-B4 ch; 5 K-K4  
R-B4 ch; 6 K-Q2, Q-QB4 mate.

### Target

Amman amman emma emma  
famine farm fernm fernm  
firm firm firm firm firm

### Crossword

#### CRYPTIC SOLUTION

ACROSS—8. At present, 10. Provided, 12. Trip, 13. Refuse, 14. Inlet, 15. Right hook, 17. Spoken, 18. Lighted, 19. Faded, 21. Open, 22. Stressed, 23. Puller, 24. Line, 25. View, 26. Ladder, 27. Unaltered, 28. A-for-a, 29. Old, 30. Other, 31. Indeed, 32. Down, 33. Water, 34. Emulation, 35. A-for-a, 36. A-for-a, 37. A-for-a, 38. A-for-a, 39. A-for-a, 40. A-for-a, 41. A-for-a, 42. A-for-a, 43. A-for-a, 44. A-for-a, 45. A-for-a, 46. A-for-a, 47. A-for-a, 48. A-for-a, 49. A-for-a, 50. A-for-a, 51. A-for-a, 52. A-for-a, 53. A-for-a, 54. A-for-a, 55. A-for-a, 56. A-for-a, 57. A-for-a, 58. A-for-a, 59. A-for-a, 60. A-for-a, 61. A-for-a, 62. A-for-a, 63. A-for-a, 64. A-for-a, 65. A-for-a, 66. A-for-a, 67. A-for-a, 68. A-for-a, 69. A-for-a, 70. A-for-a, 71. A-for-a, 72. A-for-a, 73. A-for-a, 74. A-for-a, 75. A-for-a, 76. A-for-a, 77. A-for-a, 78. A-for-a, 79. A-for-a, 80. A-for-a, 81. A-for-a, 82. A-for-a, 83. A-for-a, 84. A-for-a, 85. A-for-a, 86. A-for-a, 87. A-for-a, 88. A-for-a, 89. A-for-a, 90. A-for-a, 91. A-for-a, 92. A-for-a, 93. A-for-a, 94. A-for-a, 95. A-for-a, 96. A-for-a, 97. A-for-a, 98. A-for-a, 99. A-for-a, 100. A-for-a.

#### EASY SOLUTION

ACROSS—8. Districts, 12. Terrapin, 13. Box, 14. Robust, 15. Better, 16. Extracted, 17. Thrust, 18. Stopped, 19. Mastic, 21. Flag, 24. Wrestler, 25. Ragged, 26. Item, 27. Carpet, 28. Prudent, 29. Stratosphere, 30. Surrender, 31. Clutter, 32. Utter, 33. Plus, 34. Demanded, 35. Knapweed, 36. Down, 37. Admirer, 38. Assent, 39. Accepted, 40. Issued, 41. Statute, 42. Preserve, 43. Mars, 44. Gull, 45. Crashed, 46. Avarice, 47. Corrupt, 48. Max, 49. Lapse, 50. Impure, 51. Leathering, 52. Rod, 53. Blasted, 54. Persuade, 55. Portrait, 56. Torment, 57. Bludge, 58. Roused, 59. Satura, 60. Deaved.

#### SPORTING SAM

by Reg Wootton

#### GENERAL

#### HOSPITALS

#### EMERGENCIES

#### MUSEUMS

#### EMBASSIES

#### RENT-A-CAR

#### CULTURAL CENTRES

#### HOTELS

#### AMMAN

#### AQABA

## JORDAN TELEVISION

### Channel 6: Foreign programme

Programming on Jordan Television is subject to change without notice.

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
6:30	Veritas	Jeunesse	5:30	Documentaire	Failliten	Documentaire
7:00	Veritas	La Villa de la Nueve	Teletim	Mueque		

### News in French

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
7:20	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse
7:30	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse

### News in Hebrew

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
7:40	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse
7:50	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse

### News in Arabic

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
8:00	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse
8:10	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse

### NEWS AT TEN (English)

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
10:00	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse
10:10	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse

### Arabic news summary

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
11:10	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse
11:20	Veritas	Documentaire	Jeunesse	Dancee	Megazine Sport	Jeunesse

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#### SPORTING SAM

#### by Reg Wootton

# puzzles

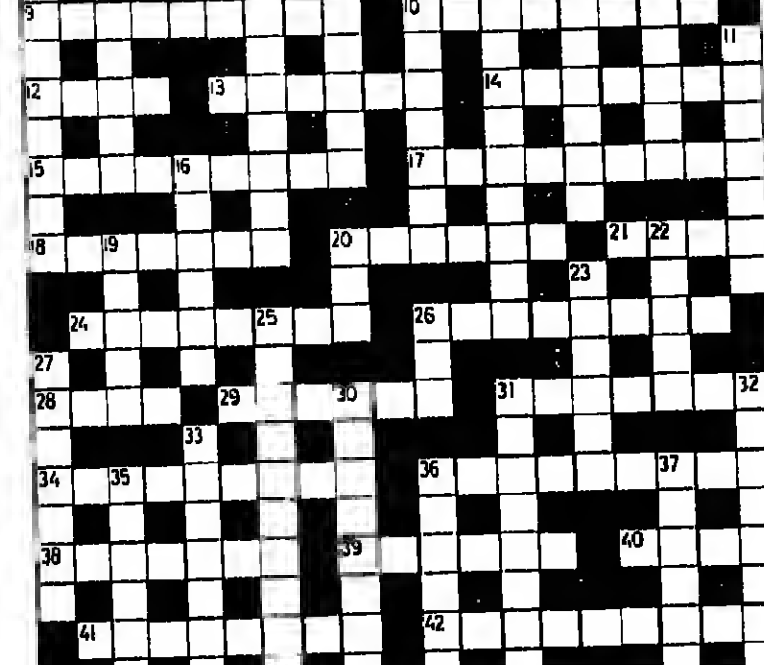
## CRYPTIC PUZZLE

Now might be apt to take offence at the suggestion that it is a crossword puzzle.

1. A poem by Father Albert (10)  
2. Well bound (10)  
3. In the West, at this point, wide across (10)  
4. Point at the vehicle that hit you (10)  
5. Which did the same about the vegetables (10)  
6. At which you'll see offbeat individuals having fun (10)  
7. What the cow got on its birthday (10)  
8. Going through South Africa, I entered another country (10)  
9. The boy on the outside does not (10)  
10. "Are liable to fall," he adds (10)  
11. "I take the information round, climb aboard (10)  
12. Switch-man (10)  
13. While saying "no fighting," bit (10)  
14. Once a vegetarian can eat (10)  
15. In particular, why a mother has a loose rein on a child (10)  
16. As usual, attending to take the (10)  
17. Strip for the dressmaker (10)  
18. Dressed Dora should be taken out to dine, for a chance (10)  
19. When called on, tried in fact (10)  
20. A reference (10)  
21. Have the money sent round and that's settled (10)

## EASY PUZZLE

Use the same diagram for either the Cryptic or the Easy puzzle.



63. Kneel the time in it when one gives evidence (7)  
64. The bird with the funny cove at the outside (10)  
65. Confused, put on extra sound in (10)  
66. On the road, someone it is skilful (10)

67. Kneel the time in it when one gives evidence (7)  
68. The bird with the funny cove at the outside (10)  
69. Confused, put on extra sound in (10)  
70. On the road, someone it is skilful (10)

## DOWN

1. Butlers (10)  
2. Rise (10)  
3. Approached and addressed (10)  
4. Published (10)  
5. Acts of Parliament (10)  
6. Keeping (10)  
7. Military (10)  
8. Hunting attendant (10)  
9. Had an accident (10)  
10. Dismissed (10)  
11. Script (10)  
12. Spell (10)  
13. Adorned (10)  
14. Thrilling (10)  
15. Put (10)  
16. Run away (10)  
17. Convince (10)  
18. Body of soldiers (10)  
19. Artistic (10)  
20. Stained (10)  
21. Cautious (10)  
22. Older (10)  
23. Yield (10)  
24. Overcrowd (10)

## ACROSS

8. Across (10)  
9. Water-tortoise (10)  
10. Wild goat (10)  
11. Healthy and strong (10)  
12. Columns (10)  
13. Drew out (10)  
14. Menace (10)  
15. Follow on (10)  
16. Putty (10)  
17. Run away (10)  
18. Convince (10)  
19. Body of soldiers (10)  
20. Artistic (10)  
21. Stained (10)  
22. Cautious (10)  
23. Older (10)  
24. Yield (10)  
25. Overcrowd (10)

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